Eighth Series, Vol. IV, No. 28

Monday, April, 22, 1985
Vaisakha 2, 1907 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES
(English Version)

Second Session
(Eighth Lok Sabha)

सत्यमेव जयते

(Vol. IV contains Nos. 21 to 30)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
NEW DELHI
Price : Rs. 4.00

[Original English proceedings included in English Version and original Hindi proceedings included in Hindi Version will be treated as authoritative and not the translation thereof.]

CONTENTS

No. 28, Monday, April 22, 1985/Vaisakha 2, 1907 (Saka)

Columns

Oral Answers to Questions : 1—24

*Starred Questions Nos. 528, 530 and 541 to 544

Written Answers to Questions : 24—263

Starred Questions Nos. 527, 532, 534 to 540, 545 and 546 24—32

Unstarred Questions Nos. 3845 to 3897, 3899 to 3995 32—263

Papers Laid on the Table 267—271

Calling Attention to Matter of Urgent Public Importance : 271—295

Reported financial crisis faced by cultivators due to sharp fall in the prices of coconut and root-wilt disease in the coconut plants

Shri T. Basheer 271

Shri Buta Singh 271

Shri Suresh Kurup 280

Shri Chintamani Jena 286

Shri Mullappally Ramachandran 292

Business Advisory Committee : 295

Sixth Report

Matters under rule 377 : 296—301

(i) Release of Central Government's share for speedy construction of road bridge over river Ghagra in district Deoria (U.P.)

Shri Ram Nagina Mishra 296

---

*The sign + marked above the name of a Member indicates that the question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

Columns

(ii) Need to provide cotton yarn at reasonable rates to the weavers of district Barabanki (U.P.)

Shri Kamla Prasad Rawat 297

(iii) Central Aid to Madhya Pradesh Government for providing drinking water in Tikamgarh, District Chattarpur, M.P.

Shrimati Vidyawati Chaturvedi 297

(iv) Streamlining the implementation of Self-Employment Guarantee Scheme

Shri Harish Rawat 297

(v) Pollution of Ganga at Hardwar due to discharge by BHEL and IDPL etc. and need for effective remedial steps

Shri Chintamani Jena 298

(vi) Need for sanctioning the project by the Centre for construction of a road from Itchapuram to Thada, (AP)

Shri P. Penchalliah 299

(vii) Threatened token strike by RMS and MMS Employees Union on 6th June, 1985

Shri Ananda Pathak 300

(viii) Installation of T.V. station at Birpur, Bihar

Dr. G. S. Rajhans 301

Demands for Grants (General), 1985-86—*Contd.* 301—366

Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies—*Contd.*

Shri Chintamani Jena 301

Shri Syed Masoodal Hussain 305

Shri V. S. Vijayaraghavan 311

Shri Kamla Prasad Rawat 313

Shri Ananta Prasad Sethi 314

Shri V. S. Krishna Iyer 317

Dr. G. S. Rajhans 321

Shri G. S. Basavaraj 324

Columns

Shri T. Basheer 328

Shri Narayan Choubey 331

Shri Vijay N. Patil 334

Shri K. J. Abbasi 337

Shri R. Annanambi 341

Shri Mool Chand Daga 344

Shri Girdhari Lal Vyas 347

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee 351

Shri Piyus Tiraky 352

Shri V. Krishna Rao 353

Shri R. P. Suman 356

Shri Laliteshwar Shahi 362

Statement re : Incident at Amritsar on 19.4.1985 365

Shri S. B. Chavan

Statement re : Reported Stay of Shri Deedar Singh Bains and Yogi Harbhajan Singh in the Rashtrapati Bhavan in 1983 367

Shri S. B. Chavan

Demand for Grants (General) 1985-86—*Contd.* 368—392

Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies—*Contd.*

Rao Birendra Singh 368

LOK SABHA DEBATES

LOK SABHA

Monday, April 22, 1985, Vaisakha 2, 1907 (SAKA)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

[*English*]

Schemes to Strengthen Cooperative Credit Movement for Farmers

*528. DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the schemes drawn up to strengthen the co-operative credit movement for farmers during the Seventh Plan;

(b) the salient features thereof; and

(c) how far these schemes ill go in helping the farmers to obtain credit from the co-operative sector ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House.

Statement

The following schemes are under consideration :

- (i) Comprehensive scheme for the development of short-term co-operative credit structure.
- (ii) Scheme for the development of long-term co-operative credit structure.
- (iii) Special scheme for co-operatively weaker States and Union Territories.
- (iv) Special scheme for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.
- (v) Extension and Training.
- (vi) Credit Planning and monitoring.
- (vii) Emergency fund scheme for weaker sections.
- (viii) Pilot scheme for strengthening the credit delivery system.
- (ix) Failed well fund scheme.
- (x) Agriculutral Credit Stabilisation Fund.

2. The main objective of all these schemes is to strengthen co-operative credit structure at all levels particularly at the village level to step up credit support for agricultural production programmes with larger flow of funds to weaker sections and less developed regions. It is proposed to transform the primary agricultural credit societies in a phased manner into multi-purpose service organisations capable of handling not only credit but all other supply and services including marketing and processing of agricultural produce and distribution of consumer goods. The basic idea is to provide all types of credit including consumption credit to farmers. Importance is also given for mobilisation of deposits for augmenting resources of co-operatives. Under the schemes, financial support is proposed for the provision of physical facilities like office building, godown, strong-room and iron safe, cash counters, staff support, rehabilitation of overdues, simplification of procedure, extension and training. Measures are proposed for opening fresh line of credit to small and marginal farmers who are saddled with excessive debt burden by

rehabilitating overdues and providing financial assistance to cover infructous investment like failed wells. Special emphasis will be given to strengthening the credit structure in the co-operatively weaker States in North-Eastern region. Financial assistance will be available for co-operative organised mainly for SC/ST to improve their performance. Grant and subsidy are also proposed for members belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for purchase of shares of co-operatives.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : I must congratulate the Minister for initiating the comprehensive scheme for the development of short-term and long-term co-operative measures. He has stated on page 2 of his reply that "measures are proposed for opening fresh line of credit to small and marginal farmers who are saddle with excessive debt burden etc." According to your observation and observation of the many members, after the Land Ceiling Act, all the farmers are small and marginal farmers, if you take like that. In drought prone areas also, they are saddled with so many overdues. Will you take this part into consideration or not ? Is the Minister thinking to reorient, that is, advise the State Governments and different co-operative societies to change the administrative pattern or the administrative structure because bank Managers and Secretaries are much less qualified to propagata the norms of this co-operative movement in our country ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Both the parts of the Hon. friend's question are very good suggestions. No doubt about them. Farmers, whether they are marginal or small farmers, the need for credit is very much felt, and he is quite right in observing that almost all the farmers are to be treated like marginal and small farmers. So far as the spirit goes, it is very good. But unfortunaley the resources are very limited with the credit institutions that for the time being we have to go by priorities so that the weakest of the weaker sections gets more consideration.

MR. SPEAKER. Can we leave priorities at any time ? You said 'for the time being' ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH ; As far as the second part of the question is concerned, yes, we are having pilot schemes which will set apart in all the States methods by which we have more expert officers. This idea of having credit on administrative grounds, going to the bank instead going to the others, is good and now the credit must go to the farmers' field. This approach has to be made, this orientation has to be given. There should be more trained people. But training scheme will be a good scheme, which I am sure, all the State Governments will try to copy.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Very good.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : The Hon. Minister inaugurated the silver jubilee celebrations of the National Cooperative Land Development Banks Federation and the board meeting of International Raiffeisen Union at Bonn. The Minister called upon the banking institutions to reorient their policies, procedures and programmes. What is the comprehensive scheme this international federation has got, where Mr. W. Schiffgen, IRU Secretary-General had attended ? What is his comprehensive formula which he is propagating in our country ? And, according to the Minister's observations he has promised in that meeting that in the Seventh Five Year Plan they are going to implement this short-term and long-term measures and at the same time the land development banks are being assigned a credit programme of about Rs. 38,000 million in the Seventh Plan. So what is the actual result of the deliberations, what is their scheme and in which capacity are you going to diversify the cooperative movement in our country ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH : It is a fact that I attended the silver jubilee celerbrations of the National Cooperative Land Development Banks and IRU ; and there we made a broad policy statement about encouraging land development banks in the country and also providing more credit on a long term basis, through their net work to help the farmers. The Land Development banks are increasing their lending programmes from Rs. 555 crores in 1984-85 to Rs. 1,000 crores in 1989-90. This is possible if long cooperative credit structure is considerably strengthened. Most of the land development banks are having problems due to overdues. As on 30-6-1983 only 517 out of 1,833 Primary land development banks were eligible for unrestricted loans. Look at the percentage. Out of 1,833 land development banks at the primary level, only 517 are eligible ! That means the rest of the banks are not eligible; because of their overdues they are not capable of mobilising sufficient capital, they are not able to maintain their offices. Therefore, this very vital link for the credit supply has gone down and there is a need for reviving this very important institution. As many as 726 primary land developing banks have been having overdues above 26 per cent and they are having only very nominal lending programmes. As a result of the reduction in their share capital and other resources most of the land development banks have been weak, and recently the margin of interest available to the banks also was reduced by the National bank for Agricultural and Rural development. There is no stabilisation arrangement which is very important. There is no adequate stablisation arrangements, with the banking establishments in the rural areas for the benefit of farming sector. At the moment this aspect of our credit giving institutions is totally negligible.

We are trying to see that this stabilisation capital is given to all these banks so that they can run their credit loaning facilities on a longer perspective.

SHRI KOLANDAIVELU : The Tamil Nadu Government has come forward to write off the cooperative loan to the small and marginal farmers to the tune of more than Rs. 200 crores. But here credit is given to small and marginal farmers at a higher rate of interest. Is there any proposal before the Central Government to give free of interest loan to the small and marginal farmers because of the fact that they are having five acres or less holdings and that too dry land holdings ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH : In the cooperative sector the rate of interest on loans, both short-term as well as long-term, was reduced in 1983. Last year also a marginal reduction was effected keeping in view the overall economic position of the country and constraints on the capital that we have in the cooperative sector. At the moment, it is not possible for me to hold out any promise.

SHRI SOMNATH RATH : The farmers are not supplied with credit in the cooperative sector in time, with the result the credit is not utilised for productive purposes. Will the Minister take suitable steps to see that the credit is given to the farmers in time so that this can be utilised for productive purposes ?

SHRI BUTA SINGH : We are also trying to introduce a pilot scheme. We are trying to re-organise the entire structure. The present system of cooperative loaning in the country has almost worn out. We have to rejuvenate it. There is no denying the fact that the present system is very much dilapidated. The position of land development bank and the cooperative banks is not very good. We are examining it and we are going to streamline the institutions. We will see that the cooperative banks instead of allowing the farmers to come to their offices, generate sufficient enthusiasm so that the experts go to the farmers, study their needs and apply psychological treatment than the bureaucratic attitude which has so far been going on in this country.

Export of Indian Films

*530. SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of Indian film has shown decline during the last five years;

(b) if so, whether Government have appointed any task force to consider ways and means to further promote export of Indian films; and

(c) if so, what are its findings ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

MR. SPEAKER : Remarkable. What a variety ?

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : The reply is

very irritating to the eyes when we read it. I agree that there is a decline. At least the Minister could have given the figures in terms (of volume or percentage decline or in terms) of money. Which are the main countries where our films are exported and what are the causes of its decline ?

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : The figures in respect of the export value of feature films are as follows :

1982-83	Rs. 1,150 lakhs
1983-84	Rs. 876 lakhs
1984-85	Rs. 727 lakhs.

So, there has been a considerable decline.

As far as the countries are concerned, most of these exports are to those countries where the people of Indian origin live or have settled down, or those which have close cultural ties with India. Such countries are mostly U.K., U.S.A., Canada, Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, Arabian Gulf-countries, Mauritius, Fiji Islands, Kenya and Sri Lanka.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL : Sir, on the one hand there is a decline in the exports of films and on the other hand, there is an increase in the size of the delegations that go for the international film festivals. About a dozen officers went last year. Are they not making any efforts to promote exports, and is it because of the video piracy that the exports are declining ? Are those countries which the Minister has mentioned, members of the Geneva Convention which has stipulated that if there is a violation of copyright, some action can be taken so that if there is video piracy, some action may be open to the exporters or to the producers ? What measures will the Minister like to take to promote the exports of Indian films abroad ?

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Sir, the main reason for the decline in exports is video technology because now the film is available at home on video and many people do not go to cinema houses. And therefore, from 1980, we have started selling video rights abroad. Just as the income from feature films has declined, the export value of video rights, on the other hand, has increased from Rs. 103 lakhs in 1982-83 to Rs. 195 lakhs in 1983-84. Last year there has been a slight decline but what perhaps we have lost on feature films has slightly been gained by the sale of video rights abroad.

As far as the Geneva Convention is concerned, the holder of the copyright can initiate legal proceedings against a country if that country is a signatory to the Geneva Convention. Unfortunately, 40 per cent of those countries are not signatories to the Geneva Convention.

[*Translation*]

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether......

MR. SPEAKER : In spite of being a 'Bairagi' (recluse) you want to talk about cinema.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I am a 'Bairagi' with a family.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : He became "bairagi" only because of cinema.

SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : I want to know whether after the International Film Festival in January, reports have been published in newspapers that the demand for Indian films has increased abroad. On that basis can you tell us whether, as compared to last year, there is hope of an improvement in the situation this year ? Secondly, the way video-films are being smuggled out of our country, what steps have we taken, after this Festival, to check this smuggling ?

[*English*]

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Sir, as far as the Film Festival is concerned, it is true that a lot of interest was shown by those who came from abroad, but offhand, I will not be in a position to say how much we have gained in terms of rupees or in terms of foreign exchange within just 4-5 months.

As regards video piracy, this is a very difficult question. Last year we passed an Act under which some actions have been taken by certain State Governments.

SHRI D.N. REDDY: Sir, I would like to know from the Minister whether he will consider importing of good English films. There are some outstanding English films which are worth seeing.

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Sir I have got figures to show how many films we have imported . (*Interruptions*).

MR. SPEAKER : He is asking about good English films.

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : Yes, we are importing good English films and, in fact, we propose now to show good foreign films on every alternate Saturday on the T.V.

MR. SPEAKER : I am concerned with the Hon. Member's wishes, whatever he thinks good.

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : We will import good films.

[*Translation*]

MR. SPEAKER : Shri Nayak.

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : MR. Speaker, Sir, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that......

MR. SPEAKER : There is a lot of difference between Nayak and Sahi......

[*English*]

SHRI G. DEVARAYA : I would like to know whether the Government intends to produce full length picture films on their own so as to promote export of films. And if at present the Government have no such intention, I would like to know whether in future Government will consider this aspect.

SHRI V.N. GADGIL : We have an organisation called National Film Development Corporation. It is primarily concerned with giving boost to production of good films, but it also produces films.

MR. SPEAKER :

Shri Krishan Pratap Singh ... absent.

Prof. Saifuddin Soz ... absent.

Shri K. Ramamurthy ... absent.

Remarkable performance.

Shri Ram Bahadur Singh ... absent.

Shri Rao ... absent.

Shri Virdhi Chander Jain ... absent.

Even Jain sahib is absent today.

Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal ... absent. Should I pack up and leave and come after Question Hour ?

Shri B.V. Desai ... absent.

Oh my God. What is happening ?

Will the House pass a vote of thanks to Shri Madhav Reddy to be present ?

Eight Members are absent in a row.

Rehabilitation of Bonded Labour

*541. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Standing Committee on bonded migrant and casual labour has recently recommended to Government that pace of rehabilitation of bonded lobour should be accelerated and there should be time bound programme for their identification, release and rehabilitation;

(b) whether Government of India propose to engage private voluntary organisations for the purpose; and

(c) if so, what programme Central Government have chalked out to remove this evil from the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH) : (a) to (c). A Statememt is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

At the last meeting of the Central Standing Committee on Bonded, Migrant and Casual Labour held on 16th March, 1985, there was a general feeling that the pace of rehabilitation of bonded labour required to be speeded up and several suggestions in this regard were made relating to identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labour. It was explained that on the basis of present information, there is still a backlog of 42,000 bonded labourers needing rehabilitation and the Centrally Sponsored Scheme in this regard is being continued during the 7th Five Year Plan period and an outlay of Rs. 5.00 crores is provided in the Annual Plan of the Ministry of Labour for 1985-86. It was expected that the process of rehabilitation of the bonded labourers would be completed by the end of the Seventh Plan period. The question of involving private voluntary organisations in the programme for identification and rehabilitation of bonded labourers is also under consideratson of Government.

The bonded labour system has been abolished throughout the country with effect from 25th October, 1975 under the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976. Under the Act, the responsibility for identification, release and rehabilitation of bonded labour rests with the State Governments. With a view to supplement the efforts of the State Governments a Centrally Sponsored Scheme was launched by the Central Government in 1978-79 under which the State Governments are provided Central financial assistance on matching grant basis (50 : 50) for rehabilitation of bonded labourers. In order to complete the process of rehabilitation of bonded labourers as a time-bound programme, annual targets are being fixed from 1982-83 for different States and the progress made in this regard is being monitored. In order to ensure that the bonded labourers are rehabilitated on a permanent basis and do not slip back into bondage, the State Governments have been advised to integrate the Centrally Sponsored Scheme with similar other Schemes viz, IRDP, NREP, Special Component Plan for Scheduled Castes and Tribal Sub-Plan and other on-going schemes of the State Governments. Other instructions given to the State Governments inter-alia are to :—

(i) give due cognizance to the newspaper reports highlighting the existence and problems of bonded labourers and complaints received should be enquired into promptly and appropriate action taken on the findings of the enquiry;

(ii) give due weightage to the complaints made by the voluntary agencies and social action groups and provide relief to the aggrieved labourers in accordance with the provisions of the Bonded Labour System (Abolition) Act, 1976; and

(iii) view the public interest litigations in the correct perspective and implement the directions of the Courts in time and in right earnest.

MR. SPEAKER : No further supplementary ? Finished ?

Disparity in Minimum Wages

*542 SHRI K. MOHAN DAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a wide disparity in minimum wages in different States;

(b) whether Government are also aware of the fact that industries are shifted to the States where minimum wages are comparatively low from the States where the same is higher; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to bring about parity or near parity in the minimum wages in different States ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJAIAH) :(a) to (c). A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Complaints have been made from time to time that due to a wide disparity in the minimum rates of wages in certain employments in the neighbouring States in the Southern Region, there is a tendency for the industries to shift to States where minimum wages are comparatively low. This question has been discussed at a number of meetings which recommended revision of minimum wages wherever such revision was due.

The general question of the need for uniformity in minimum wages was discussed at the 31 st Session of the Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1980. It was agreed at the Conference that while absolute uniformity is not possible, should not be too wide a disparity in wages prescribed by neighbouring States as it might lead to flight of industry and business from one State to another. Accordingly, it was emphasised at the aforesaid Conference that while fixing/revising wages under the Minimum Wages Act. due regard may be given to the impact that the prescribed wages might have on the industry in other States especially the neighbouring States. The recommendation was brought to the notice of all the State Governments/ Union Territories Administrations for necessary action. The question was again discussed with particular reference to the bidi industry at the meeting of some Labour Ministers in Sepetember, 1981 and a number of recommendations were made in order to reduce disparities in wages.

At the suggestion of the Government of Kerala an item regarding disparity in wages has beeen included in the agenda of the 19th meeting of the Southern Zonal Council scheduled to be held at Bangalore on April 20, 1985.

SHRI K. MOHAN DAS : The Minister has stated in this Statement that the recommendations of the Labour Ministers' Conference were brought to the notice of the State Government. I would like to know whether this step has brought about any improvement in the situation ? If not, what further effective steps are going to be taken to see that the wide disparity in minimum wages is removed ?

SHRI T. ANJAIAH : For the minimum wages the appropriate deciding authority are the State Governments. There is, of course disparity between the States. Therefore, we are calling the Labour Ministers and Trade Union Conference because we want to see that national minimum wages are fixed so that the factories do not get shifted from one place to another.

SHRI K. MOHAN DAS : I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of the fact that cashew industry in Kerala are being shifted to Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and other areas because the minimum wages in these States are lower than what it is in Kerala. If so, what specific steps are being taken in this regard ? Will he convene a special meeting of the Ministers of these Southern States in order to bring about a solution to the problem ?

SHRI T. ANJAIAH : Yes, we are having a Labour Ministers' Conference on 11th of May 'so that we can bring about minimum wages for cashewnut, Bidi and other workers.

SHRI D. N. REDDY : I would like to know whether it is not necessary to have a common law to enact common minimum wages throughout the country ?

SHRI T. ANJAIAH : That is also under our consideration.

Scarcity of drinking water in Delhi

+

*543. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA :
SHRI HARISH RAWAT :

Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware that there is a great scarcity of drinking water in Delhi and New Delhi areas;

(b) if so, the particulars of localities which are facing great crisis; and

(c) the reasons for this scarcity and steps being taken to regulate the supply of drinking water ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): (a) At present the water supply position is reported to be reasonably satisfactory. However, shortage of drinking water develops during summer season. Towards the end of February 1985, there was a scarcity of water for a few days due to lack of adequate water in the pumping station. This was corrected by additional release of water.

(b) During summer general complaints of low water pressure are received from areas situated at higher elevations or at the tail end of the distribution system e.g. various colonies in South Delhi. In case of fall of raw water supply from Haryana at Hyderpur plant, water supply to West Delhi, North West Delhi and parts of Civil Lines Zone get affected. Water scarcity also occurs in unauthorised colonies and in the colonies under the process of regularisation.

(c) The scarcity is mainly due to the reason that Delhi does not have adequate water sources of its own and has to depend upon neighbouring States for the purpose.

The following steps are being taken :

(i) Distribution system is being rationalised on the basis of a study conducted by the Tata Consulting Engineers.

(ii) Shahdara Water Treatment Plant and two Ranney wells are under construction for up-rating the capacity of the Wazirabad Water Works.

(iii) To increase the availability of filtered water supply in its area, the New Delhi Municipal Committee has taken action by developing tube wells, which are 66 in number at present. 11 underground tanks have also been constructed.

(iv) With a view to keep a water supply position, two standing committees, one each in the Delhi Administration and Ministry of Works and Housing have been constituted.

(v) The question of augmenting the water supply for Delhi has been taken up with the State Governments of Uttar Pradesh and Haryana and Rajasthan.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : The Hon. Minister while replying, has given a contradictory reply to part (a) of my question. He has mentionend that towards the end of February 1985, there was scarcity of water for a few days.

MR. SPEAKER : Not in the end of 1985, it must be 1984.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Sir, it is towards the end of February, 1985. To part (b) of my question he has replied that during summer general complaints of low water pressure are received. In this connection I would like to state that in Delhi when the summer comes in the month of March or April, the water supply is less. The Hon. Minister has replied that due to low water pressure in areas situated at higher elevations or at the tail-end of the distribution system, there is scarcity of water. But in Central Delhi and even in the residences of M.Ps. there is water scarcity and also in the posh areas there is water scarcity in the month of February and March. May I know what action Government intends to take so that regular water supply to the Union Capital of Delhi is ensured ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : About the question of scarcity of water towards the end of February 1985, I have answered that there was scarcity for a few days when some defect had crept in, and that was corrected.

So far as the summer season is concerned it is easily felt by everybody that the average consumption of water per day becomes larger because everybody feels taking path, utilising water more frequently and in large quantity. Therefore, this is not only in Delhi but throughout the whole of India this problem is there. The shortage of water is a universal complaint in summer scason. There is some problem.

[*Translations*]

SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI : There is acute shortage of water in our houses these days.

MR. SPEAKER : If you have to see the real shortage, then come with me and seehow acute is the shortage of water in Sikar in Rajasthan. Here it is only delicacy. Actual shortage is in those areas. You cannot see water there. First, we shall have to arrange water for them. We have to do that now.

[*English*]

SHRI CHINTAMNI JENA : My second supplementary would be this. The Hon. Minister has replied that 66 number of tubewells are sunk in the NDMC area. May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is adequate to meet the demand ?

There was a proposal to bring water from the river *Ganges*. May I know what is the progress on this account ?

MR. SPEAKER : It is the progress on which account ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : The whole question of supply of water for the whole of Delhi is under the active consideration of the Government. The whole question of supply of water in Delhi depends upon the consent of the State Governments of Haryana, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh because water to Delhi is supplied from Haryana, parts of Rajasthan and parts of Uttar Pradesh. So, a standing committee has been set up with the chairman from the Centrol Water Commission and all the concerned engineers of all these States are in the committee. They will decide how best water can be supplied for the consumption of Delhi and its metropolitan city. Sometime back the meeting was held but no final decision has been taken. But it is under the active consideration of the Government. We are trying our best to augment the supply. There are proposals that some reservoirs should be added in the Ganga Jamuna basin. Then at a particular place, Haryana Government is taking water for irrigation purposes. A proposal is being sent that they should divert that water to Delhi. These are some difficulties and we are quite aware of the whole situation. We are actively considering all these proposals. Therefore, the Hon. Members need not worry. They will get water.

[*Translation*]

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : Mr. Speaker, Sir, so far as the problem of drinking water is concerned, I would like to submit that the drinking water schemes started in 1972 in U.P., Madhya Pradesh and Orissa have not been completed so far due to paucity of funds with the result that drinking water is not available in scarcity-villages. I would, therefore, like to know from the Hon. Minister whether Government will consider providing extra resources for the drinking water schemes already started by Government in different States, but which are still lying incomplete even after 10 to 12 years, so that these schemes are completed ?

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : The Hon. Member is very well aware that so far as drinking water is concerned, both the Central Government and the State Governments are aware of the problem. In this connection, a countrywide survey has been made. Many a time questions about the identification of the problem villages have been asked and they have been answered in the House. In 1985, 75,000 villages will spill over to the Seventh Five Year Plan and this backlog (if you want I will give Statewise figures also) will be covered in the Seventh Five Year Plan by 1990. It is not a Central Scheme. Rather, every State should ensure that there remains no village without water. Not only this. Some years back, an incentive was given to the State Governments for solving the drinking water problem in the areas. If they take speedy steps we will provide incentives. Many States have taken advantage of it.

MR. SPEAKER : Ghafoor Saheb, other facilities may or may not be provided but at least one facility must be made available. In the villages where drinking water is not available, it should be made available on top priority. Without it, there is nothing of life. We visit many places, where there drinking water is not available and old women come to us and say that they do not want anything else but water. Therefore, whether you provide any other facility or not, you must see that water is provided.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : Mr. Speaker, Sir, whatever you have said is in my mind also. It is insulting that after so many years of independence even water is not available.

MR. SPEAKER : We will award you 'Param Vir Chakra' but you ensure that water is made available.

SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR : I will myself visit your constituency.

[*English*]

Import of Sugar from Brazil

*544. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether sugar imported from Brazil is being supplied to the consumer of Bangalore city since November 1984;

(b) whether the above sugar is harmful to the health of children;

(c) whether there is any necessity of importing sugar from Brazil when we ourselves are exporting sugar to other countries;

(d) at what rate we are exporting sugar and what rate we are importing sugar from Brazil; and

(e) whether Government propose to stop import of sugar from Brazil ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Against the contracts for import of sugar entered into in 1984, sugar has arrived from various countries including Brazil and from September, 1984 onwards it has been allotted to different State Governments including Karnataka Government for distribution as levy sugar to the consumers through fair price shops. The city/townwise distribution of levy sugar within the State falls under the purview of the State Government.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of limited availability of indigenous sugar, export of sugar has been drastically curtailed and imports have been resorted to so that there may be adequate availability of sugar at reasonable prices for internal consumption.

(d) the average F.O.B. price at which sugar was exported by the State Trading Corporation of India during the financial year 1984-85 has worked out to about Rs. 2,324 per tonne. The average CIF price of sugar imported from various countries including Brazil against the contracts entered into during 1984 was about Rs. 2,288 per tonne.

(e) In view of the facts stated in reply to (b) and (c) above, the question does not arise.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : What is the total shortfall in sugar production in the country and what is the quantity imported from Brazil ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : The quantity imported from Brazil is about 2.68 lakh tonnes.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : This particular imported sugar was supplied to consumers in Bangalore city. There was a complaint from the consumer that it is harmful to health. May I know whether the Karnataka Government has sent any report to the Government of India in this regard ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I do not think there has been any complaint from the Karnataka Government in this regard. Because Brazil sugar is very powdery and it is very fine grain some consumers did not like it as compared to large grain sugar. But it is very nice sugar and its sucrose content is also very high. There is no question at all of this sugar being inferior to any other sugar produced in the country, nor it is harmful at all. It was not supplied only to Bangalore city. It was also supplied to many other places. Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu etc. got a larger share of imported sugar for public distribution. Some States other than Karnataka also got a larger share of this sugar. There has been no complaint from anywhere.

[*Translation*]

SHRIMATI PREMALABAI CHAVAN : It is a matter of regret that our country imports sugar whereas it is said to be predominatly a sugar-producing country. We can, of course, produce sugar to meet our total requirements, but there is difficulty regarding issuing of further licences for setting up of sugar mills. In 1960 also, a similar problem arose but new licences were not issued and this created. shortage of sugar. Consequently the prices of sugar increased. In 1984, also the same situation arose. From Maharashtra, repeated requests for issuing of new licences for setting up more sugar mills are made but the Central Government do not pay attention towards them. Our technology is very famous, sugarcane is produced in a large quantity there and if more licences are given to the people, the sugar crisis can be removed. I am sure that the Hon. Minister will consider this matter and ensure that more and more licences are issued to Maharashtra.

MR. SPEAKER : Issue one or two licences to us also.

SHRIMATI PREMALABAI CHAVAN : I want to know what your views are on the requests made by us for issuing licences to set up more sugar mills in Maharashtra.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : The fall in the production of sugar is not due to lesser number of sugar mills. In 1981-82, the sugar production capacity was less than the present capacity. Even then 84 lakh tonnes of sugar was produced in the country. In the year after that, 82 lakh tonnes of sugar were produced but after that 59 lakh tonnes were produced and this year, although many licences have been issued, the production is likely to be around 62 lakh tonnes. When sugarcane production is less or is produced in a lesser area or because of drought its availability is less or the sugar content is less, the production of sugar falls down.

So far as licences are concerned Maharashtra was given maximum licences in the past. Expansions of mills was also the maximum in Maharashtra. As compared to other States, Maharashtra got the maximum number of licences, almost equal to the number of licences issued to the rest of the country. Therefore, one should not complain that in Maharashtra the number of sugar mills is less. There are some districts, in each of which there are 10 to 12 mills. Our policy is that those districts where there are no mills should be given priority. This shortfall is there in other States also.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : Just now the Hon. Minister has said that in 1981-82, the production was 84 lakh tonnes and in the year next to that 82 lakh tonnes but subsequently the production fell down and came to 59 lakh tonnes. I would like to know whether the Hon. Minister is aware of why the production is coming down? He says that it is because of sugarcane but it is not correct. The fact is that subsequent to the year when production of sugar is more, the farmers do not get the fair price for sugarcane. Even now, hundreds of crores of rupees are due to be paid to the farmers as arrear. I would like to ask the Hon. Minister the acreage under sugarcane productioa in the years in which 84 lakh tonnes or 82 lakh tonnes of sugar were produced as also the acreae under sugarcane cultivation in the year when the production of sugar was 59 lakh tonnes as also how much less sugarcane was produced. Funds are made available for import of sugar but the farmers are not paid a higher price. Had you paid that money to the farmers in the shape of higher prices, I think the production of sugar would have continued to be at a higher level.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I have already stated that the real cause is that sugarcane was grown in a lesser area because of drought. If the rainfall is adequate, water is available in adequate quantity and the means of irrigation are sufficient, then the yield of sugarcane will not be less. At the same time it is also true that the farmers are not paid as much as they demand every year.

So far as the arrears are concerned, during the last year a lot of arrears have been cleared and the percentage of this year is less as compared to that of the earlier years.

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA : How much is the percentage ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : You will have to ask a separate question for that. The present question relates to Karnataka. You want to have all information in answer to this question. I was telling you that the percentage of arrears in the matter of payment is the lowest in the current year and our efforts are to see that the arrears become the minimum but Hon. Members will agree that during the past five years, the prices of sugarcane have been the maximum. You can very well imagine the difference when I say between 1977 to 1980 when another Party was in power, the farmers could not get Rs. 3/- or Rs. 3.50 per quintal for sugarcane and they had to burn it in their fields but subsequently, i.e., after 1980, the prices of sugarcane have never been less than Rs. 20 or Rs. 21 per quintal. During the past one or two years even Rs. 25 or Rs. 26 per quintal have been given. Therefore, it cannot be said that the production has come down due to the lower prices of sugarcane. It is another thing that sometimes the cultivation of sugarcane might have been in a reduced area but to my mind the acreage has not reduced by more than 2 to 3 lakh hectares. Sometimes the production comes down because of diversion towards 'Gur' and 'Khandsari'. If the mills make payment for sugarcane regularly and if the prices are also higher than those paid by the khandsari producers then the sugarcane will be supplied to the sugar mills. The price of the sugarcane used for 'Khandsari' and 'Gur' is much more and therefore, a greater quantity of sugarcane is diverted towards that side. We have no control over the production of 'Gur' and 'Khandsari' and we do not come to know how much is the production of these commodities. You can estimate the quantity of sugar produced but regarding the quantity of other sweetening agents produced, nothing can be said. If the production of sugar has come down to 60 or 62 lakhs tonnes, one cannot say that the production of 'Gur' and Khandsari' has not inrceased. If the mills pay higher prices for sugarcane, the propuction of sugar automatically increases. Secondly, there is some exemption from excise duty on Khandsari' while on 'Gur' there is no control at all. That is why the production of sugar has been less.

[*English*]

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : It is not a fact that there are some interested person in-between in this export and import business ? The Minister has stated that we are producing enough sugar. Is it not a fact that Government wants to please some interested persons who are getting commistion out of this, and if it is true, how much commission is a party getting per quintal when sugar is exported or imported ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I do not have any information about the Hon. Member's Party. But I know about my Party; they are not getting anything out of it. If he has any specific information. then he should write to me or to the Prime Minister and we shall look into it. But he cannot make general allegations like this.

MR. SPEAKER : Prof. Nirmala Kumari ...Not present. Prof. P. J. Kurien...He is also not present. There is no more Question left ; the list is over. Now let me run through the whole list again. Shri Shantaram Potdukhe...Not here. Shri Krishan Pratap Singh Not here. Prof. Saifuddin Soz . Not present. Shri K. Ramamurthy Not here, Shri Ram Bahadur Singh Not here. Shri V. Sobhanadreeswara Rao...Not present. Shri Virdhi Chander Jain...Not present. Shri Sanat Kumar Mandal...Not present. Shri B. V. Desai...Not here. Prof. Nirmala Kumari . Not here. Prof. P. J. Kurien...Not here. So, the Qustion List is over.

———

WRITTTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

(*English*)

Facilities asked by All India Small Newspapers Conference

*527 SHRI SHANTARAM POTDUKHE : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state

(a) the facilities asked for by All India Small Newspapers Conferecne from Government;

(b) the steps being taken by Government in this regard;

(c) whether they have asked for financial assistance, if so, the details thereof; and

(d) steps taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) The Government have not received any representation from All India Small Newspapers Conference asking for facilities.

(b) to (d). Do not arise.

(*Translation*)

Meetings of Hindi Advisory Committee

*532 SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of meetings of Hindi Advisory Committee of his Ministry held in 1984;

(b) the resolutions passed in these meetings; and

(c) the details regarding the implementation of these resolutions ?

THE MINISTR OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AMD BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) three meetings of the Hindi Advisory Committee of Ministry of Information and Broadcasting were held in 1984.

(b) No resolutions as such were passed in these meetings.

(c) Question does not arise.

(English)

Allotment of Land to Housing Societies

*534 PROF. SAIFUDDIN SOZ : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of housing societies in Delhi which have been registered for allotment of land but have yet to be allotted land; and

(b) criteria for allotment of land on priority basis ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Only 28 Cooperative Group Housing Societies out of 453 which were registered with the Delhi Development Authority in 1981 for allotment of land have not been allotted land so far.

Under the new registration scheme of Cooperative Group Housing Societies floated by the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Delhi in 1983, 1402 Societies have been granted registration. The Registrar, Cooperative Societies is processing the documentation of these Societies. The DDA is making efforts to identify land for allotment to these newly registered societies. The question of allotment of land to such Societies will arise when this process is complete.

(b) Land is allotted to the eligible Societies according to their seniority i.e. serial number and date of registration with the Registrar, Cooperative Societies, Delhi.

National Grid of Rural Godowns

*535 SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

How many rural godowns have been built upto the end of 1984 under the National Grid of Rural Godowns and their total storage capacity, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Statement indicating number of godowns reported by the concerned State Governments to be complete and their capacity State-wise under the scheme for Establishment of a National Grid of Rural Godowns.

Sl. No.	Name of the State	Number of godowns reported complete	Capacity (in metric tonnes)	Remarks
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Andhra Pradesh	48	27,000	As on 31.12.1984
2.	Bihar	21	21,000	As on 31.12.1984

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Gujarat	137	67,110	As on 31.12.1984
4.	Haryana	30	29,750	As on 31.12.1984
5.	Karnataka	143	31,500	As on 30. 9.1984
6.	Madhya Pradesh	129	95,000	As on 31.12.1984
7.	Maharashtra	345	1,38,200	As on 31.12.1984
8.	Orissa	20	15,500	As on 31.12.1984
9.	Rajasthan	65	29,250	As on 31.12.1984
10.	Tamil Nadu	3	3,000	As on 31.12.1984
11.	Uttar Pradesh	100	31,600	As on 31.12.1984
12.	West Bengal	20	15,000	As on 31.12.1984
	TOTAL :	1061	5,03.910	

Detection of Cases Regarding Sub-letting of Government Accommodation

*536. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the efforts made to detect the cases of sub-letting of Government accommodation in Delhi.

(b) how many cases of sub-letting of Government accommodation have so far been detected during 1984-85, with full particulars thereof; and

(c) the action taken against the persons concerned ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) The Directorate of Estates has a full-fledged wing for detecting the cases of sub-letting in Government residences and also to monitor its progress continuously, A programme is chalked out every month to carry-out surprise inspections in the various colonies by deputing officers of the Directorate of Estates, Besides carrying out surprise inspections, specific complaints of sub letting are also looked into.

(b) and (c). During the period January 1984 to March 1985, subletting of quarters was proved agaist 318 employees and appropriate penalties under the rules were imposed. In 267 cases, allotment of quarters have been cancelled and allottees have been declared ineligible for Govrnment accommodation for a period of 3 years. In 51 cases, allottees have been debarred from sharing of residence for specified period.

Poultry in Andhra Pradesh

*537. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh has the largest poultry of an important and ancient breed called "ASLEE";

(b) whether the Central Avian Research Institute propose to establish a Central Research Station for conservation and improvement of desi fowls at Hyderabad; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The Indian Council of Agricultural Research has under consideration the establishment of a regional station for genetic studies/conservation of desi poultry germplasm. The location and details of the scheme are yet to be finalised.

Priority to Drinking Water Supply over Irrigation and Power

*538 SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to solve the urgent problem of drinking water by giving higher priority to it over irrigation and power and making more provision for it and by persuading the State Governments for doing like-wise in the Seventh Five Year Plan; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) The programme for drinking water supply is being accorded utmost priority in the Plan. It is reflected in the Document containing Approach to the Seventh Five Year Plan also. The *inter se* priority of the programme in relation to the Irrigation and Power sectors will be known when the Seventh Five Year Plan is finalised.

(b) Does not arise.

News Captioned "Rural Job Schemes Expectation Belied"

*539. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Rural job schemes expectation belied" appearing in the 'Economic Times', New Delhi, dated 27 March, 1985;

(b) the potential of employment generation schemes expected to be achieved during the current year as against the achievement in the year 1984-85;

(c) whether Government propose to make more funds available for rural development purposes during the current year ; and

(d) if so, how much and the portion out of it proposed to be allocated to West Bengal Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) to (d). The news item captioned "Rural Job Schemes : expectation belied ?" appearing in the Economic Times', New Delhi dated 27th March, 1985 and commenting on the outlay and employment targets of 1985-86 as against 1984-85 has come to Government's notice.

The Central Government budget for 1985-86 proposes central assistance of Rs. 230 crores under NREP and Rs. 400 crores under RLEGP. This is at the level of 1984-85. The provision for NREP is proposed to be kept at last year's level pending finalisation of State Plans and will be enhanced later, if required. The share of West Bengal as provisionally worked out comes to Rs. 17.74 crores under NREP and Rs. 30.12 crores under RLEGP.

The target for employment generation under the two programmes during 1984-85 was 309 million mandays under NREP and 300 million mandays under RLEGP. The targets for 1985-86 under these programmes are yet to be worked out as State Annual Plant for 1985-86 have not yet been finalised.

New Banking Scheme for Farmers

*540. SHKI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is preparing a new scheme which would be introduced on a pilot basis to take the banking system to the farmer' doorstep;

(b) if so, whether the scheme will start from 1985-86 onward;

(c) if so, the main features of the scheme and

(d) to what extent this scheme will be helpful to the farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir,

(c) and (d). The main objective of the pilot scheme is to provide credit and other services to farmers in time and in adequate quantity without the borrowers being asked to visit the office of the cooperative credit institution a number of times. A close banker-customer relationship at the farm level is envisaged in the Scheme. A mobile credit officer goes to the villages to establish personal contact with the farmers, understands their problems and thereafter prepares individual credit plan for each borrower. He will help in arranging supply of inputs and farm guidance for proper utilisation of the loan amount. He is expected to help the farmers in marketing of their produce. He will also ensure timely repayment of loan. The basic idea is to replace the office-oriented scheme of lending by a farm-oriented system on an experimental basis.

(*Translation*)

Homeless Families in Metropolitan Cities

*545 PROF. NIRMALA KUMARI SHAKTAWAT : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of families in Calcutta, Bombay, Madras and Delhi Metropolitan Cities. separately, who do not own a house;

(b) whether Government have any special scheme to construct houses for such families; and

(c) the provision included in the Seventh Five Year Plan for this purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) According to 1981 census, the number of houseless families in the cities in question is as follows—

Calcutta	7,884
Bombay	22,608
Madras	1,668
Delhi	11,928

(b) Housing is a State subject. There is no Central scheme for providing houses to the homeless. The problem of housing for homeless is being taken care of under the Schemes in operation in the State sector for building houses for economically weaker sections of society.

(c) The Seventh Five Year Plan is yet to be finalised.

[*English*]

"Fisheries Development 2000 A.D."

*546. PROF. P.J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of India was a participant at a recent conference on fisheries called "Fisheries Development 2000 A.D.", held in New Delhi;

(b) if so, whether any assurances were given to the conference on permitting foreign charter fishing boats; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SHIGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The charter policy is governed by the provisions of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981 and the rules framed thereunder. The question of giving an assurance in the conference does not arise.

Members in Boards to Central Warehousing Corporation

3845. SHRI M. MAHALINGAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the particulars of all the members on the Board of Directors, Regional Managers, Executives and Executive Engineers Board-wise and Executive Committee of Central Warehousing Corporation;

(b) the particulars of all SCs/STs in the above Board/Committee;

(c) if SCs/STs are not included in the Board Committee, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether there is any proposal to include SCs/STs in the Board/Committee referred to above ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) A statement showing the constitution of the Board of Directors of the Central Warehousing Corporation and its Executive Committee is attached.

(b) to (d). At present, there is no Director from the Scheduled Castes or Scheduled Tribes on the Board of Directors of the Corporation or its Executive Committee. Nor is there any proposal to give such representation on the Board or the Committee. The Board of Directors of the Corporation and its Executive Committee are constituted in accordance with the Warehousing Corporations Act, 1962 and the Rules framed thereunder.

Statement

Constitution of the Board of Directors of the Central Warehousing Corporation

1.	Shri K.R. Ganesh	Chairman
2.	Shri S.M. Patankar	Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies (Department of Food)
3.	Shri H.D. Bansal	Joint Secretary, Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies (Department of Food)
4.	Shri A.D. Nagpaul	Director (Customs), Ministry of Finance
5.	Shri R.C. Dubey	Deputy Secretary, Ministry of Commerce
6.	Shri Ajit Singh	Managing Director, Food Corporation of India
7.	Shri R.V. Gupta	Managing Director, National Cooperative Development Corporation
8.	Shri S. Chintamani	Chief Officer, State Bank of India
9.	Shri A.C. Parikh	General Manager, United Commercial Bank, Calcutta
10.	Smt. Kanta Kathuria	Representative of Cooperative Societies
11.	Shri V.N. Bhargava	Additional Zonal Manager, Life Insurance Corporation-representative of Insurance Companies, Investment Trusts, and financial institutions etc.
12.	Shri M.K. Garg	Managing Director, Central Warehousing Corporation

Constitution of the Executive Committee of the Central Warehousing Corporation

1.	Shri K.R. Ganesh	Chairman
2.	Shri S.M. Patankar	Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser, Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies (Department of Food)
3.	Smt. Kanta Kathuria	Representative of Cooperative Societies
4.	Shri M.K. Garg	Managing Director, Central Warehousing Corporation.

Storage/Transit Losses in Food Corporation of India

3846. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the storage/transit losses in Food Corporation of India upto 1 per cent are written off at Regional level and are not intimated to their Zonal Office and headquarters;

(b) whether the storage and transit losses intimated by Food Corporation of India to Parliament or in their balance sheets etc. are only those which are written off at headquarters level only;

(c) if so, Region-wise details of the losses written off with names of the depot at Regional level in 1982-83, 1983-84 and upto December, 1984 alongwith the value of the foodgrains written off;

(d) the reasons for not taking into account these losses while intimating loss details to different quarters concerned; and

(e) the quantity of losses reported at Regional/Zonal/National level which has not been written off for the years 1981-82, 1982-83 and 1983-84 ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) The storage/transit shortages are written off by the officers of the Corporation at various levels to the extent of powers delegated to them. All shortages occuring in depots or in transit are reflected in the accounts of the Food Corporation of India.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) and (d). Do not arise.

(e) The depots are stock holding units of the Corporation. Year-wise position of the un-regularised shortages as on 31.3.84 for the last three years is as follows :—

Year	Unregularised shortages (Qty./Lakh M.T.)
1981-82	5.21
1982-83	6.64
1983-84	6.52

Orissa Government's Proposal for Rural Development

3847. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government of Orissa have approached the Union Government for rural development during 1985-86;

(b) if so, the salient features of the plan submitted by Orissa Government; and

(c) whether the Planning Commission has cleared the proposals ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) to (c). The Government of Orissa have submitted Annual Plan for 1985-86 to the Planning Commission. This has not yet been finalised. The salient features of the proposed plan relating to important Rural Development Programmes are given in the attached statement.

Statement

Salient features of proposals forwarded by Government of Orissa to Planning Commission for 1985-86 in respect of Rural Development.

(a) Financial Targets :

Programme	Financial Target (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2
i) **Integrated Rural Development Programme :**	
a) Grant-in-aid for IRD Programme	1198.00

1	2
b) Strengthening of Block Organisation for IRDP	107.00
c) Monitoring Cell for IRDP	3.20
d) IRDP Cell	1.20
Sub-Total :	1309.40
ii) National Rural Employment Programme	1200.00
iii) Drought Prone Areas Programme	293.00
iv) Community Development and Panchayats.	130.00
v) Land Reforms :	
a) Consolidation of Holdings	520.00
b) Implementation of Ceiling Law	105.00
c) Survey and Settlement	200.00
d) Cardex	25.00
e) Urban Land Ceiling	5.00
Sub-Total :	855.00

(b) Physical targets :

Programme	Physical Target
1	2
i) Integrated Rural Development Programme	
1) Beneficiaries assisted (Number)	1,88,000
2) Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribes Beneficiaries (Number)	1,00,000
3) Beneficiaries assisted under Industrial Services and Business (ISB) (Number)	63,000
4) Youth trained/being trained under TRYSEM (Number)	13,000
5) Youths self employed (Number)	13.000
ii) N.R.E.P.	
6) Employment Generated (Lakh Mandays)	100.00

1	2
iii) D.P.A.P.	
7) Minor Irrigation '000 Hect.—area covered	22
8) Soil and water conservation	6
9) Afforestation—'000 Hect.	36
10) Pasture Development -'000 Hect.	7.2
11) Beneficiaries assisted	23,500
iv) **Land Reforms :**	
12) Area declared surplus (Hect.)	16
13) Area taken possession (Hect.)	4
14) Area allotted (Hect.)	7011.5
15) Consolidation of holdings (Hect.)	1,30,000

Filling of the Low Lying Areas by DDA

3848. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the DDA allotted land to various co-operative housing societies including Dhauli Dhar Cooperative Society for construction of residential accommodation in the past three years in Rohini;

(b) if so, whether the filling of the low lying portion (below road level) being the obligation of the DDA, was also ensured;

(c) if so, the particulars of the societies which have been allotted land in 1982-83, where subsequent filling has been ensured;

(d) whether there are any Housing Societies in which DDA, has still not ensured the filling; if so, the details thereof and the reasons thereof; and

(e) the time by which the filling of low lying areas would be done ?

THE MINISTER OF WORK AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The DDA had decided to fill up the low lying portion of land upto 1'-6" below the road level in the areas identified at the time of giving possession to the Cooperative Group Housing Societies in Rohini. Statement-I gives the names of Societies for whom earth filling has been done.

(d) and (e). Names of the societies for whom the filling has yet to be done are given in Statement-II attached. The filling of low lying area in question is linked with the availability of earth in Rohini from the supplementary drain, the work of which is being done in a phased manner. The earth filling in these societies is expected to be completed in the next six months.

Statement-I

Particulars of Co-operative Group Housing Societies in which filling of low lying portions has been done in Rohini.

Sl. No.	Name of the Society
1.	Anubhav Co-op. Group Housing Society.
2.	Atamvallabh Co-op. Group Housing Society.

3. Bharat Co-op. Group Housing Society.
4. Farmers Co-op. Group Housing Society.
5. Gujarat Sargodha Co-op. Group Housing Society.
6. I.V.T. Co-op. Group Housing Society.
7. Printers Co-op. Group Housing Society.
8. Parsaran Co-op. Group Housing Society.
9. Sunehri Bagh Co-op. Group Housing Society.

Statement-II

Particulars of Co-op. Group Housing Societies in which filling is yet to be done in Rohini.

Sl. No.	Name of the Society
1.	APMC Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
2.	Agroha Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
3.	Cosy Home Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
4.	Central Delhi Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
5.	Delhi University Staff Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
6.	Dhuli Dhar Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
7.	Delhi Police Employees Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
8.	Guru Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
9.	Milan Sar Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
10.	Maheshwari Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
11.	Neelgiri Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
12.	Pink Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
13.	Prem Kutir Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
14.	Rang Rasayan Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
15.	Sunder Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
16.	Sant Tulsi Dass Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
17.	Saket Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
18.	Sanskrit Nagar Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
19.	Tarun Sewak Co-operative Group Housing Societies,
20.	The Model Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
21.	Tehsil Alipur Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
22.	Unique Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
23.	Vasuda Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
24.	Vasundhara Co-operative Group Housing Societies.
25.	Vidya Vihar Co-operative Group Housing Societies.

Setting up of Radio Station at Berhampur

3849. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal to set up a Radio Station at Berhampur in Orissa;

(b) whether the above proposal has been included for implementation in the Seventh Plan; and

(c) if so, the steps taken to expedite the implementation of the above proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) In the approved 6th plan, there was no proposal to step up a Radio Station at Berhampur in Orissa.

(b) and (c). The Seventh Five Year Plan proposals have not yet been finalised.

Slum Improvement with the help of World Bank

3850. SHRI R. M. BHOYE : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have approached the World Bank for assistance for slum improvement schemes in the country;

(b) if so, the details regarding the schemes and financial assistance sought and sanctioned to various States ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) ; (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The details are as per statement enclosed.

Statement

Statement showing Slum Improvement and Upgradation Scheme under World Bank aided projects

Madras Urban Development Project II :

Slum improvement component includes grant of title of home improvement loans to about 50,000 households.

Kanpur Urban Development Project :

The proposal in for upgrading 20,000 slum households in Ahatas and other slum areas on about 105 hect. including grant of tenure, improved infrastructure services, home improvement and sanitary core loans, community facilities and small business support services benefitting about 1,12,000 residents.

Madhya Pradesh Urban Development Project :

The proposal includes upgrading of 75 slum areas or 37,000 households. It is proposed to cover 220 hectares of land with provision of tenure, improved infrastructure services, home improvement loans and community facilities. The programme is to benefit 1,87,000 persons in six cities.

Bombay Urban Development Project :

The proposal is for upgradation of slums benefitting a population of 1,00,000 households.

Modification in IRD Programme

3851. SHRI ANAND SINGH
SHRI MAHENDRA SINGH :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have drawn up plans to modify, restructure and augment the Integrated Rural Development Programme for making it effective enough as an instrument for alleviating poverty;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the progress made so far in implementing this programme in each State/Union Territory, indicating also the expenditure incurred and the results achieved ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) and (b). The details of the Seventh Plan are yet to be finalised.

(c) Two statements showing State-wise and Union Territory-wise progress made under Integrated Rural Development Programme in the Sixth Five Year Plan (upto February, 1985) are laid on the Table of the House. (Placed in Library. *See* No LT-1089/85).

Prevention of Shifting Cultivation in Tribal Areas

3852. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have made efforts for prevention of shifting cultivation in tribal areas in different State ;

(b) whether the Central assistance has also been provided to some States in this regard for improvement and to prevent shifting cultivation; and

(c) if so, the details regarding the financial assistance given to various States including Orissa during Sixth Five Year Plan period to prevent shifting cultivation in tribal areas ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. Efforts made for prevention of shifting cultivation in the tribal areas by the concerned States and Union Territories including North Eastern Council are given in the attached statement. The Central Government also assists the concerned States and Union Territories through Central Sector programmes. The broad strategy is to wean away the shifting cultivators from this practice through beneficiary oriented programmes, aiming at providing alternative occupation and economic upliftment. The Board on Shifting Cultivation at national level meets periodically to review the programme implementation and to ensure that the tribal areas where shifting cultivation is practised receive the attention they deserve. Based on the recommendations of the Board on Shifting Cultivation, a family oriented Central Sector Programme for control of shifting cultivation during the Seventh Plan in all problem States and Union Territories with an outlay of Rs. 75 crores for settling 25,000 jhumiah families has been proposed for which the final approval of Plannig Commission and the Ministry of Finance is awaited.

(b) A Central Sector Scheme of pilot project for control of shifting cultivation was started in the Fifth Plan and continued till the end of 1978-79 in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Orissa and also in the States and Union Territories of the North Eastern region. In accordance with the decision of the National Development Council, this scheme was transferred to the State Sector from 1st April, 1979. However, this scheme was continued in the Union Territories of Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram during the Sixth Plan. The Central assistance provided to these Union Territories to implement programme to prevent shifting cultivation in the Sixth Plan till the end of 1984-85 would be Rs. 81.47 lakhs.

(c) Owing to the discontinuance of the Central Sector programme for control of shifting cultivation in the States, no Central assistance was provided to the States including Orissa during the Sixth Plan.

Statement

(a) Efforts made for prevention of shifting cultivation by State Governments and Union Territory Administrations

Generally developmental programme for providing income generation and employment as an alternative to shifting cultivation practice are undertaken under State Sector. Tripura and Arunachal Pradesh are implementing beneficiary oriented programmes both for settlement on permanent cultivation combined with plantation crops and also on other vocations like pisciculture, piggery, etc. Meghalaya is implementing the programme to control shifting cultivation on an integrated approach with terracing for agriculture and horticulture/cash crop plantation to reduce the families practicing jhuming.

(b) North Eastern Council

During the Sixth Plan, North Eastern Council has undertaken the programme for control of shifting cultivation on watershed basis. An outlay of Rs. 720 lakhs has been earmarked for the Sixth Plan for undertaking 13 projects namely, 2 each in Arunachal Pradesh, Mizoram, Manipur, Meghalaya, Nagaland and Tripura and one in Assam.

Survey and investigation work are expected to be completed in 10 projects during the current year and about 5000 families are expected to be settled by the end of 1984-85.

Employees in the Regional P. F. Commissioner's Office, Bhubaneshwar

3853. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees in the office of Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Bhubaneswar as on the 1 March, 1982 and as on the 1 March, 1985;

(b) the number of Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe employees amongst them;

(c) whether reservation rules in favour of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are being followed and rosters maintained for that purpose;

(d) if so, the reasons for the shortfall, if any, and the steps taken to fill the quota reserved for these communities; and

(e) the number of reserved posts lapsed during this period ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (e). The required information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Revision of Minimum Wages Act

3854. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the progress made with regard to the revision of minimum wages in respect of the 27 scheduled employments which were placed before the Wage Advisory Board in its meeting on 9 March, 1984;

(b) whether notifications have been issued for the implementation of the minimum rates of wages;

(c) whether there is any proposal under Government's consideration to raise the minimum wages in view of the increase in the price index;

(d) what steps Government propose to take to increase the minimum wages being paid to such employees whenever there is an increase in the price index; and

(e) whether Government have formulated any formula in this regard; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) and (b). No meeting of the Minimum Wages Advisory Board was held on the 9th March, 1984. However, at its meeting held on January 9, 1985 the Advisory Board concidered and recommended revision of minimum rates of wages. Notifications in the revision of the minimum rates of wages in respect of 34 scheduled employments were issued on February 12, 1985.

(c) to (e). While revising the minimum rates of wages the rise in the Consumer Price Index Number is taken into account. The formula at present being followed by the Central Government is that whenever there is an increase of 50 Points in the 12-monthly average of the Consumer Price Index Number, the minimum rates of wages are increased in the same proportion as the percentage increase in the Consumer Price Index Number.

Supply of Feature Films and Songs by the Film Industry to Doordarshan

3855. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry has taken a decision regarding renewal of the contract which expired on 31st March, 1985 for the supply of feature films and song sequences by the Film Industry to Doordarshan;

(b) if so, the price hike demanded by the film industry as compared to existing prices paid; and

(c) the amount paid in each case by the films sponsoring these films and Chitrahars to the Doordarshan Kendras Bombay, Delhi and other regional centres ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL). (a) and (b). A statement-I is enclosed.

(c) A statement-II is enclosed.

Statement-I

The rates in forces upto 31-3-1985 for telecast of Hindi feature films in colour on the National network of Doordarshan and those proposed for future by the Film Industry are as follows :—

Sl. No.	Category of film	Rates paid by Doordarshan	Rates proposed by Film Industry
		Rs.	Rs.
1.	Category 'A'	3,25,000	20,00,000
2.	Category 'B'	2,43,750	15,00,000
3.	Category 'C'	1,62,500	10,00,000

2. For "Chitrahaar" programmes telecast on the National network, Doordarshan pays a sum of Rs. 1,000/- for each song and dance sequence included in it. In addition, a royalty of Rs. 3,000/- is also paid for acquiring telecast rights of each sequence. The Film Industry has demanded the following rates for song and dance sequences included in "Chitrahaar" programme telecast on the National network :—

(1) For first telecast : Rs. 10,000/-

(2) For each repeat telecast : Rs. 2,500/-

No decision has yet been taken about the rates of payment effective from April, 1985 for telecast of Hindi feature films and "Chitrahaar" programmes on the National network.

Statment-II

For sponsorship of each half-hour chunk of feature films and "Chitrahaar" programmes telecast on the National network, Doordarshan charges a fee of Rs. 1 lakh. The rates for sponsorship of half-hour chunks of feature films and "Chitrahaar" type programmes from individual Doordarshan Kendras are as follows :—

Sl. No.	Kendra	Amount (Rs.)
1.	Delhi-Mussorie-Jaipur-Raipur-Muzaffarpur other relay transmitters.	30,000
2.	Bombay-Pune-Panaji	20,000
3.	Calcutta/Madras/Jalandhar-Amritsar	10,000
4.	Lucknow-Kanpur/Hyderabad/Bangalore.	7,500
5.	Srinagar	7,500

Import of Edible Oils for 1985-86

3856. SHRI K. PRADHANI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to reduce import of edible oils in 1985-86;

(b) if so, the details of the directives sent to the State Trading Corporation for this purpose;

(c) the names of the countries from which edible oil is proposed to be imported in 1985-86; and

(d) the programme of Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). The quantum of edible oil to be imported is decided by the Government from time to time taking into consideration the several factors like the availability of indigenous oils, likely demand of the edible oils and availability of the foreign exchange and other related factors. The State Trading Corporation is then asked to import that quantity.

(c) The names of the countries from which edible oils are normally shipped by sellers are as follows :

Oils	*Countries*
(i) Soyabean Oil (SBO)	USA,Brazil, Argentina and Europe.
(ii) Rapeseed Oil (RSO)	Canada and Europe
(iii) Sunflower Seed Oil (SBSO)	USA and Argentina
(iv) Neutralised Palm Oil (NPO)	Malaysia and Indonesia.
(v) RBD Palm Oil (RBDPO)	Malaysia and Indonesia.
(vi) RBD Palmolein (RBDPL)	Malaysia and Indonesia.

(d) The import of edible oil will depend upon existing gap between the demand for and availability of indigenous edible oils.

Upgradation of Air Relay Station at Mysore

3857. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTANARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the action taken to upgrade the A.I.R. relay station at Mysore which played significant role in setting up Akashvani in the country:

(b) if so, the time likely to be taken; and

(c) if not, reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). In the approved 6th plan no scheme to upgrade power of the existing transmitter at Mysore could be included due to constraints on resources. Moreover Mysore which has a 1 KW transmitter and studios is working as an independent station giving satisfactory service to Mysore city.

(c) Does not arise.

Coconut Development Board at Patna

3858. SHRIMATI MADHURI SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Coconut Development Board will be set up at Patna;

(b) if so, the time by which it is likely to be set up; and

(c) its location ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (c). The Coconut Development Board was set up in 1981 with its headquarters at Cochin in Kerala. However, a Regional Office of the Coconut Development Board for the Eastern Region has been set up recently with its headquarters at Patna.

Use of Green Belt Area in Ashok Vihar Phase-I as an Open Air Latrine

3859. SHRI L. BALARAMAN : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 209 on 23 July, 1984 regarding the use of green belt area in Ashok Vihar Phase-I as an open air latrine and state :

(a) whether the boundary wall with grill fencing along the railway line has been provided in order to check the nuisance as stated in reply to the above question;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) whether the nuisance still continues and if so, the steps taken by Government to stop it ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) :(a) No, Sir.

(b) Construction of a boundary wall with grill fencing was not considered to be an adequate measure as the Jhuggi dwellers can make an opening in the compound wall or jump it to cause the nuisance. DDA propose to develop the area fully by planting trees and shrubs during the coming rainy season.

(c) The nuisance is reported to have been reduced by provision of additional chowkidars and efforts are being made by DDA to ensure complete stoppage.

Auction of DDA Flats in Wazirpur Complex

3860 PROF. M.R. HALDER : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to refer to the reply given to USQ. No. 5590 on 4 April, 1983 regarding auction of DDA flats in Wazirpur complex and state :

(a) the date of approval of plan with or without double basement submitted by M/s. Lord Builders Pvt. Ltd. for Plot No. 18, Wazirpur Industrial Area, Delhi;

(b) whether the basement (double/basement) has already been constructed without the approval/sanction of the plan by the authorities concerned;

(c) if so, the steps taken by Government in this regard;

(d) whether the space has been booked by M/s. Raj Sudha Towers P. Ltd. whereas the land was sold to M/s. Lord Builders Pvt. Ltd; and

(e) if so, whether Lord Builders have transferred all its rights to M/s. Raj Sudha Towers Ltd. after completing all the necessary formalities ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) 5.6.1984.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) While requesting for sanction of the building plans, the party who had already by and large completed two basements by then, give an undertaking to the DDA that they would fill up the lower basement with earth before applying for form 'C' (a certificate, pertaining to completion of underground services within the plot, water supply line, sewerage line etc.). The party has not complied with the undertaking so far and has hence been served with a notice. They have also not yet applied for form 'C'.

(d) The alleged booking of space by M/s Raj Sudha Towers Pvt. Ltd. is not within the knowledge of DDA.

(e) Prior permission of DDA is essential for transfer of rights by the purchaser to another party. DDA has not received any request to this effect from the purchasers viz. M/s. Lord Builders Pvt. Ltd.

[*Translation*]

Assistance to Bihar under MNP for the Construction of Rural Roads

3861. SHRI RAMASHRAY PRASAD SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount of financial assistance given by Central Government to Bihar under the Minimum Needs Programme, during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether Bihar Government has utilised the entire amount allocated to it by Central Government for construction of rural roads;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor;

(d) whether Bihar Government has prepared any scheme for constructing rural roads to link the villages and areas inhabited by Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes with main roads; and

(e) if so, the area-wise details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) No financial assistance is given by Central Government to the State under the Minimum Needs Programme, which is in the state sector and funds for which are provided in the State's Five Year/Annual Plans.

(b) and (c). Questions do not arise.

(d) and (e). The matters fall under the state sector. However, some projects for construction of rural roads linking villages, including some villages in tribal and backward areas in Bihar were proposed by State Government and sanctioned under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme. Details of the sanctioned road projects under this programme are given in the Statement attached.

Statement

Rural Road projects approved for Bihar under Rural Landless Employment Guarantee programme.

Sl. No.	No. of road works approved	Length of road(kms.) to be constructed	No. of villages to be connected	Name of the project	Total cost of project (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	6	24.00	29	Construction of rural roads in Giridih district.	35.52
2.	52	134.00	115	Construction of rural roads in 4 districts of North Bihar (East Champaran, Muzaffarpur, Gopalganj and Madhuban districts).	190.28
3.	259	698.25	877	Construction of hard surface roads in 11 districts of South Bihar (Patna, Bhojpur, Nalanda, Sahebganj, Goddu, Monghyr, Rohtas, Hazaribagh, Bhagalpur, Daltenganj and Nawadah)	1020.11
4,	132	430.00	637	Construction of hard surfaced roads in 6 districts (Gaya, Aurangabad, Dhanbad, Dumka, Deoghar and Palamau districts).	636.40
5.	31	140.00	261	Construction of hard surfaced roads in 5 districts of South Bihar (Chaibasa, Jamshedpur, Gumla, Ranchi and Lohardagga districts)	207.20
6.	6	20.00	18	Construction of link roads in Purnea, Katihar and Madehpur districts.)	28.40
7.	68	181.50	170	Construction of hard surfaced roads in 5 districts of South Bihar (Patna, Bhojpur, Bhagalpur, Monghyr and Sahebganj districts)	266.31

1	2	3	4	5	6
8.	7	20.00	38	Construction of mooram roads in Tribal areas of Bhagalpur and Santhal Parganas.	29.60
9.	11	30.00	41	Construction of hard stone surface roads in Tribal areas of 4 districts of South Bihar (Ranchi, Gumla, Lohardagga and Singhbhum districts).	44.40
10.	86	403.00	384	Construction of mooram roads in the district of Giridih and gravel roads in the districts of Ranchi, Singhbhum, Gumla and Lohardagga.	436.83
11.	437	1220.50	1042	Construction of rural roads in 16 districts of North Bihar (Siwan, Saran, Gopalganj, Muzaffarpur, Sitamarhi, Vaishali, West Champaran, Darbhanga, Madhubani, Samastipur, Begusarai, Khagarea, Saharsa, Madhopura, Purnea and Katihar).	1733.11

[*English*]

Interest on Payments made by Allottees of DDA Flats

3862. SHRI DHARAMBIR SINGH TYAGI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who have been waiting to receive their flats for one year or more after making the full payment to the DDA for the same;

(b) steps Government propose to take to expedite the handing over of these flats to the allottees; and

(c) whether the DDA will be made to pay interest on the payments made by the prospective flat owners for the period of delay in handing over the possession of flats to them ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): (a) About 467 persons.

(b) All possible efforts are being made to complete and hand over the flats at the earliest.

(c) DDA will pay interest @ 7% on the amounts deposited by the allottees till the day of completion of the flats.

Space for Bank in 4-Storeyed Commercial Complex at Sheikh Sarai Phase-II

3863. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether DDA have recently auctioned shops and commercial flats in 4-storeyed commercial complex at Sheikh Sarai Phase-II;

(b) if so, whether space has been kept for functioning of a bank in that complex; and

(c) if so, to which Bank this space has been allotted and when the Bank is expected to start functioning ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) No Bank has so far approached DDA for allotment of this space.

Allotment of Quarters at Baba Kharag Singh Marg, New Delhi

3864. Dr. C. S. VERMA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Government quarters remaining unallotted and unoccupied out of the 55 quarters on Baba Kharag Singh Marg (Between Dr. R. M. L. Hospital and New Delhi G.P.O.) ;

(b) whether quarter No. 699, construction of which was completed some six years ago, has not yet been alloted to any body and has remained unoccupied ever since: and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor and the resultant loss of revenue to Government so far ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) No General Pool quarter at Baba Kharag Singh Marg remains unallotted.

(b) and (c). Quarter No. 699, Baba Kharag Singh Marg, belongs to Lok Sabha Pool. Hence no information is available.

News Captioned "Media Presentation of Women Disturbing"

3865. SHRI NARSINGHRAO SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the news-item captioned "Media presentation of women disturbing" published in Deccan Herald dated 11 March, 1985;

(b) whether studies made by UNESCO and other organisations pointed out the constant-sex-stereo-typing in mass media and other channels (viz. school text books, and syllabi) showing women as inferior to men and thereby making women timid and unassertive; and

(c) if so, the steps proposed to be taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir. While the Government do not interfere in the functioning of the press, in accordance with firm commitment to its freedom, the AIR and Doordarshan have strict orders not to broadcast/telecast any programme depicting woman inferior to man. In films too, the Board of Film Certification ensures that women are not shown inferior to men.

As regards the text books, the text books of NCERT are checked up in the light of recommendations made at a national seminar held by NCERT to 'Indentify Values Commensurate with Status of Woman'. Teacher's Handbooks for Elementary Stage and Secondary Stage have been developed and Teacher Trainers have been oriented in various parts of the country to handle syllabus and text books eradicating sex-stereo-typing. A manual of instructions to eardicate sexist bias from text books has been made ready and text books developed by States and Union Territories have to be evaluated on this basis.

Loss on Foodgrains Distributed through PDS

3866. SHRI S. M. BHATTAM : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government incur considerable losses on foodgrains etc. distributed by it through Public Distribution System; and

(b) if so, details of losses suffered during last three years in Centrally administered areas ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) The Central Government issues foodgrains at uniform subsidised rates throughout the country for distribution through Public Distribution System.

(b) The food subsidy during the last three years has been as below :

	(Rs. in crores)
1982-83	710
1983-84	835
1984-85	1100

[Translation]

Rental Paid by Provident Fund Organisation Offices in Delhi

3867. SHRIMATI SUNDARWATI NAWAL PRABHAKAR : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Central and the Regional Provident Fund Commissioners' Offices in Delhi are housed in rented buildings and if so, the monthly rent paid in respect of each of them;

(b) whether except in Delhi the Provident Fund Organisation has constructed its own buildings for housing its regional offices in various States and if so, the names of States where it has constructed such buildings;

(c) the reasons for which construction of a building in Delhi for housing its various offices was not even considered by the Provident Fund Organisation when it has constructed office buildings in several States; and

(d) whether Government propose to take any action in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Central Office and the Delhi Regional Office of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation are housed in rented buildings and monthly rent paid in respect of each of them is as under :

Central Office

(i) Mayur Bhavan	Rs. 1,37,398.50
(ii) Shri Ram Centre for Art and Culture	Rs. 43,460.00
	Rs. 1,80,858.50

Delhi Regional Office

(i) Nehru Place	Rs. 57,557.95
(ii) Milan Complex	Rs. 37,566.00
	Rs. 95,123.95

(b) The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation have their own office buildings at Hyderabad, Trivandrum, Bangalore, Bombay, Bhubaneshwar, Chandigarh, Jaipur, Madras and Kanpur.

(c) and (d). Employees' Provident Fund Organisation has been pursuing the matter regarding allotment of land for construction of the Central and Regional Offices with the Ministry of Works and Housing.

[English]

Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar

3868. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Veterinary Research Institute, Izatnagar failed in nominating its representative for many months of Committee constituted to outline policy for producing polyvalent vaccine against foot-mouth disease ; if so, date when the Institute was requested for nomination and date of receiving it, composition of committee and its term of reference with reason why the Institute delayed nomination and actions Committee took upto 1 April, 1983; and

(b) whether Izatnagar Institute suggested investigations first with laboratory animals before deciding policy of vaccine production; if so, detail thereof, when investigations completed and findings thereof and if not completed, reasons therefor with expected completion date ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The Ministry of Agriculture constituted a Task Force on Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD) to discuss the issue relating to epidemiology of FMD vis-a-vis the incorporation of different types/subtypes of FMD virus in the vaccine and requested on 11th July, 1984 for nomination of a representative of Indian Veterinary Research Institute on the Task Force. The Director, IVRI in consultation with the group of scientists actively engaged in research on FMD at IVRI reviewed the matter and reached a decision that the issue concerning incorporation of the strain type A (A 5 or A 22 both) could best be decided by generation of data by conducting experiments in cattle and guinea pigs and as such requested that the meeting of the Task Force may be deferred till such time as the data on these experiments became available. Accordingly, the Director General of the Council requested the Secretary to the Government of India for appropriate action in the matter. There was thus no failure on the part of the Director, Indian Veterinary Research Institute to nominate a representative but the delay was due to a request to pursue the matter in the scientific perspective. The composition of the committee and the terms of reference of the same may please be seen at statement-I attached.

(b) Yes, Sir. The Director has deputed two subject matter specialists to carry out studies at Mukteswar since high security sheds are available there. The experiments have already been initiated and it is expected that the results will be available during the next few months.

Statement

Constitution of the Task Force on Foot and Mouth Disease as Under

1.	Dr. M. N. Menon Animal Husbandry Commissioner (Retd.) Anuradha, Trivandrum 695005	Chairman
2.	Dr. S. Ramachandran, Adviser, Bio-Technology Board, Deptt. of Science and Technology, Technology Bhavan, Mehrauli Road, New Delhi.	Member
3.	A representative from the Manufacturing Unit of NDDB i.e. Indian Immunologicals.	Member
4.	A Representative of I.V.R.I. (ICAR)	Member
5.	Project Coordinator, All India Cordinated Research Project for Epidemiological Studies on Foot and Mouth Disease, Bangalore.	Member
6.	One representative of virus type Centre, N.D.D.B.	Member
7.	A Representative from F.A.O.	Member
8.	A Representative from the Animal Virus Research Institute (World Reference Laboratory, U. K.)	Member
9.	Dr. S. C. Adlakha Joint Commissioner (L.H.) Department of Agriculture and Cooperation, New Delhi.	Member-Secretary

The Terms of Reference of the Task Force as under

1.0 To examine the data available on the epidemiology of Foot and Mouth Disease in India with particular reference to F.M.D. Types A 5/A 10 and A 22.

1.1 To study the type A virus strains used for Sera production for typing, at difference periods of time to establish its implication on typing and subtyping of Type A Strains active in the country.

1.2. To examine the criteria used for comparison of different field strains of type A in the country.

1.3 To assess whether typing and subtyping methods followed conform to internationally accepted norms and if not make suitable recommendations.

1.4 Based on the conclusions arrived at, to recommend the composition and valency of the Foot and Mouth Disease vaccine required in the country with particular reference to the type A strains to be incorporated in the vaccine.

2.0 To study the physical facilities i.e. disease security and retention security facilities available in the different laboratories connected with FMD control and research in the country with the objective of identifying a laboratory with the capability of being developed as a national reference laboratory for FMD and which could be responsible for :

(a) monitoring of FMD in the field on a continuing basis, and

(b) handling exotic strains of virus, maintenance of virus banks, production and supply of appropriate candidate virus strains to manufacturers for vaccine manufacture.

2.1 Recommendations may be made for a short-term and long-term solution to the above problem.

The Task Force would be required to submit its report in two months from date of constitution.

Rural Consumer Retail Out-lets in Gujarat

3869. SHRI AMARSINGH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the number of rural consumer retail out-lets opened in Gujarat through a Central sector schemes till the end of 1984-85;

(b) the details of items being distributed through these stores; and

(c) the details of financial assistance given to them till the end of 1984-85 ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (c). Under the Central Sector Scheme for distribution of Consumer articles in the rural areas, financial assistance by way of margin money is provided to Primary Agricultural Credit/Service Cooperative Societies to undertake distribution of Consumer goods in rural areas. Upto the end of 1984-85 an amount of Rs. 41.60 lakhs had been sactioned under the Scheme to 687 primary societies in Gujarat State out of which Rs. 23.40 lakhs have been released to 401 primary societies upto the end of 1984-85.

(b) Information is being collected.

Norms for Providing Drinking Water Facilities in Rural Areas

3870. SHRI PRATAP BHANU SHARMA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have stopped approving the water supply schemes in rural areas;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) if not, whether Government have revised the norms for providing various drinking water facilities in rural areas ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) No, Sir.

Sugar Factories in Cooperarive Sectors in Haryana

3871. SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal under consideration of Government to set up sugar factories in Cooperative Sector in Haryana during 1985-86 and 1986-87;

(b) if so, the details of the proposal;

(c) the sites selected for the purpose; and

(d) funds allocated by Central Government for the purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). An application for grant of an industrial licence for the establishment of a new sugar factory in the Cooperative Sector at Teh. Fatehabad, Distt. Hissar, (Haryana) duly recommended by the State Government was recieved. As the proposal did not contain complete information regarding cane availability irrigation potential etc., the State Government were requested to furnish the same. This case will be examined on receipt of the said information in accordance with the prescribed licencing guidelines.

(d) Question does not arise at this stage.

ICAR's Research Centre on Temperate Fruits in Garhwal

3872. SHRI CHANDRA MOHAN SINGH NEGI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research has sanctioned a Research Station for temperate Fruits at Bharsar in Pauri Garhwal during the Sixth Five Year Plan;

(b) whether research work has been started there;

(c) what is the research outcome of this Research Sub-Station;

(d) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is planning to convert this Sub-Station into a Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture during the Seventh Five Year Plan at Bharsar in Pauri Garhwal; and

(e) if so, when this will be done ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Negotiations with the State Government for acquisition of land and other facilities for setting up this Station have been initiated. Since the Research Station is still to be set up, no research work has been taken up as yet at this Centre.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

Establishment of Television Programme Production Centre

3873. SHRI C. P. THAKUR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Patna being the capital of second largest State has remained neglected so far as the establishment of Television Programme Production Centre is concerned; and

(b) If so, whether Government are doing any thing in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL): (a) and (b). Action has been initiated for establishment of a TV Programme Production Centre, at Patna.

Closing of Companies due to Lock-outs and Strikes

3874. PROF. K. V. THOMAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) how many public and private sector companies were closed due to lock-outs in 1984;

(b) how many public and private sector companies were closed due to strikes in 1984; and

(c) steps Government have taken to open these companies ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). Under the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act, 1982, there can be no permanent closure due to strikes and lockouts. According to the information maintained by the Labour Bureau during 1984, there were 1542 strikes and 342 lock-outs.

[*Translation*]

Facility to Sportsmen to Purchase House at Khelgram

3875. SHRI DALBIR SINGH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to give some facilities to the sportsman for the purchase of the houses built at "Khelgram" during Asiad; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Increase in Price of Milk

3876. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAR DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) how many times prices of different grades of milk have been increased by Mother Dairy/DMS and reasons thereof;

(b) how many times have prices of milk paid to farmers round Delhi increased by above two Government Dairies and for milk supplied from far away places like Gujarat/Indore;

(c) what is the average percentage of imported milk produced used in toned milk in Delhi by two Dairies and cost prices thereof; and

(d) whether increase in Delhi Milk prices has any link to the operations of Amul ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Since 1981 Mother Dairy has increased the price of toned milk four times and full cream milk five times. During that period Delhi Milk Scheme has increased the price of toned milk and the standardised milk two times each.

Increase in selling prices of milk was necessitated due to increase in the cost of raw milk and other inputs which resulted in increase in the cost of production of milk.

(b) Since 1981 Delhi Milk Scheme has increased the price of milk procured from the cooperative dairy federations of U.P., Haryana, Punjab, Rajasthan and the cooperatives societies in the cattle colonies of Delhi eleven times. Information in respect of Mother Dairy is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(c) The commodities supplied by the Indian Dairy Corporation to the two dairies for recombination into milk is both indigenous and imported. It is not, therfore, possible to indicate the average percentage of imported milk products used in toned milk by the two dairies in Delhi.

The cost prices of milk products supplied by the Indian Dairy Corporation is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

(d) No, Sir.

Sale of Agricultural Land in Dadra and Nagar Haveli

3877. SHRI SITARAM J. GAVALI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that agricultural lands in Dadra and Nagar Haveli have been sold for-non agricultural purposes;

(b) if so, estimated acres of land which have been sold for non-agricultural purposes during the last three years; and

(c) the provision of Act/Rules under which the transactions have been allowed by the Administration of Dadra and Nagar Haveli ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR : (a) to (c). The information is being collected from Union Territory Administration and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Programme for Grass Land Management in Ramparo, Gujarat

3878. SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to State :

(a) whether a proposal has been made to the ICAR for setting up an extension programme for proper grass land management in Ramparo, Rajkot District, Gujarat;

(b) if so, which agency will undertake this project; and

(c) what financial allocation is proposed to be made ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Implementation of Recommendations of A.P.C.

3879. SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Agriculture Prices Commission is only an advisory body and its recommendations with regard to remunerative price for agricultural crops are not mandatory;

(b) how many recommendations of Agriculture Prices Commission have been accepted by Government for implementation during the last three years;

(c) whether it will be given a statutory status; and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Agricultural Prices Commission (now renamed as Commission for Agricultural Costs and Prices) made 56 price recommendations during the last three years (1982-83 to 1984-85) of which the Government accepted 41 recommendations. In addition, Government fixed higher prices in 7 cases.

(c) and (d). There is no proposal under the consideration of the Government to give a statutory status to the Commission. The Government, while taking into consideration the recommendations made by the Commission, also takes an overview of all the relevant factors after ascertaining the views of State Governments, concerned Central Ministries and the Planning Commission.

Cotton Prices

3880. SHRIMATI BASAVA RAJESWARI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND

RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it has come to the notice of Government that the cotton prices (long stapled and extra long stapled) have gone down much below the remunerative price level;

(b) if so, what steps Government propose for making improvement;

(c) whether there is any proposal before Government to export the lint during this year; if so, the quantity exported during this season; and

(d) whether Government are aware that the farmers will get better prices if the export is permitted on a large scale ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Although the prices of long and extra long staple varieties of cotton during the current season have declined from the very high levels reached last year, these prices for fair average quality this season have generally been above the minimum supports prices, which are fixed at remunerative levels.

(c) The Government have already released an export quota of 2 lakh bales of long and extra long staple cotton for the current cotton season.

(d) Government's decision on export of cotton is taken after due consideration of all the relevant factors including the interests of the farmers.

Immovable Property of State Government in the Capital

3881. SHRI THAMPAN THOMAS : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the State Governments have been allowed to own immovable property in the capital;

(b) if so, the details of the properties held by the State Governments as on 31 December, 1984 and since when these properties have been acquired by these States;

(c) the details of the properties held by Kerala Government and whether the entire property had been handed over to the Kerala Government; and

(d) if not, the details of the properties not handed over to Kerala Government ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) There is no restriction on the State Governments owning immovable property in the Capital.

(b) As per information available, the details of the properties which are with the State Governments as on 31-12-84 have been indicated in the Statement attached. Besides this, land have also been allotted to various States Governments for their Guest Houses and emporiums, etc.

(c) and (d). As per information available, details of the properties held by the Government of Kerala are as under :

(i) One plot bearing No. 4 Block 124 known as 3, Jantar Mantar Road.

(ii) Travancore House.

(iii) Kapurthala plot on Lytton Road.

So far as this plot is concerned, some portion of the land has not yet been handed over to the Government of Kerala.

Statment

Details of the properties held by the State Governments as on 31-12-1984.

Sl. No.	Particular of Properties	Name of the State Government	Since when acquired
1.	Plot No. 4, Block No. 124 3 Jantar Mantar Road	Kerala Government (then Government of TROVANCORE Cochin.)	1936
2.	Plot No. 22, Block No. 148, 3, Hailey Road	Government of West Bengal	1949
3.	Plot at Lytton Road, known as Nabha plot	Government of Punjab/Haryana	3.9.1974
4.	Plot No. 3, Block No. 143, 3, Ashoka Road	Government of Andhra Pradesh	
5.	Plot No. 2, Block No. 2, 9, Aurangzeb Road	Meghalaya Government	3.1.1973
6.	Plot No. 2—A, Block No. 11 25, Aurangzeb Road	Rajasthan Government	Sale deed dated 7.2.48 in favour of Maharaja of Jodhpur.
7.	Plot No. 1, Block No. 11, 29 Aurangzeb Road	Nagaland Government	4.7.1973
8.	Plot No. 22 (Pt.) Block No. 1, 5 Prithavi Raj Road	Jammu & Kashmir Government	27.9.62
9.	Plot No. 21, Block No. 1, 5 Prithvi Raj Road	Jammu & Kashmir Government	27.9.62
10.	Plot No. 21 (Pt.) Block No. 1, 7, Prithvi Raj Road	Rajasthan Government	21.6.1967
11.	Plot No. 11, Block No. 15, 3 Man Singh Road	Punjab Government	(i) 16.11.51 in the name of Govt. of Pepsu. (ii) 8.8.57 in the name of Govt. of Punjab.
12.	Kapurthala Plot	Government of Kerala	1920
13.	Bikaner House	Government of Rajasthan	18.7.50
14.	Udaipur House	Government of Rajasthan	21.1.52
15.	2, Recquet Road	Government of Rajasthan	15.12.47 (under requisition)

Loss Suffered by ESIC

3882. SHRI BANWARI LAL PUROHIT : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation suffered a loss of Rs. 2.32 crores in 1983-84 and it is also expected to go upto Rs. 11.68 crores during 1984-85;

(b) if so, the main factors responsible for the losses;

(c) whether Maharashtra Government have represented to the Corporation to do away with the ceiling on expenditure on medical care; and

(d) if so, reaction of Central Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The revenue deficit for the year 1983-84 was Rs. 2.31 crores and the estimated deficit as per the revised estimates for 1984-85 was Rs. 11.67 crores.

(b) The main reasons for the deficit were:

i) Decrease in contribution income due to exclusion of covered employees drawing wages beyond Rs. 1000/- per month;

ii) Increase in expenditure on medical benefit consequent upon increase in the cost of medicines and services; and

iii) Increase in expenditure on payment of cash benefits.

(c) Yes, Sir. The Government of Maharashtra had represented to the Central Government in November, 1983 for doing away with the ceiling on expenditure on medical care.

(d) The request for doing away with the ceiling could not be agreed to. However, the Corporation had issued order in December, 1983 raising the ceiling on expenditure on full medical care from Rs. 120/- to Rs. 130/- per employee per annum and the ceiling on expenditure on drugs and medicine by Rs. 5/- with retrospective effect from 1-4-1983.

Import of Seed Processing Plants

3883. SHRI S.G. GHOLAP : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to import some Seed Processing Plants; if so, how many and for which States; and

(b) whether Seed Corporation of Maharashtra has decided to launch a new project for production of vegetable seeds; if so, the particulars of the projects ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) No Sir. The Government of India has no proposal at the moment for the import of Seed Processing Plants.

(b) Yes Sir. Maharashtra State Seeds Corporation has launched a project for vegetable seed production from kharif '84 on trial basis. The aim of the project is to meet the bulk of vegetable seed requirement of Maharashtra.

Bread Production by Modern Bakeries

3884. SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether the bread produced by the Modern Bakeries is supplied only in the Capital city;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase its production;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Company has any proposal to set up a unit in Kerala; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Modrn Food Industries (India) Limited (formerly Modern Bakeries (India) Limited produces bread at its 13 units located at Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Bombay, Calcutta, Chandigarh, Cochin, Delhi, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Kanpur, Madras and Ranchi. The bread produced at these units is sold in the local markets where the units are located and also in the neighbouring areas.

(b) to (e). As at present, the Company has no proposal to increase the production capacity of its existing units or to set up a new unit in Kerala.

OB Van for Tamil Nadu

3885. SHRI R. ANNANAMBI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

the reasons for ignoring the Tamil Nadu State's request for an OB Van to telecast colour programmes ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : The four colour OB Vans, procured after the Government's decision to introduce colour TV in the country in a phased manner, were deployed at Doordarshan Kendras in accordance with the scheme approved. Some equipment for limited production of field-based programmes in colour have already been provided to Doordarshan Kendra, Madras. Equipping one of the studios at this Kendra for operation in colour is also an approved scheme which is expected to be implemented by 1986-87. Provision of more colour OB Vans at various Doordarshan Kendras, including Doordarshan Kendra, Madras, will depend on the availability of resources for this purpose during future Plan period.

[*Translation*]

Government Offices in Private Buildings

3886. PROF. CHANDRA BHANU DEVI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether many Central Offices in various parts of the country are housed in private buildings;

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to shift these offices in Government buildings; and

(c) whether Government are taking any concrete steps to provide more housing facilities, particularly in metropolitan cities, for Central Government employees ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Ministry of Works and Housing is taking steps to construct office accommodation in various cities where Central Government Offices are located within the funds made available for the purpose.

(c) Government propose to undertake substantial programme of construction and augmentation of residential accommodation in the 7th Five Year Plan. Details have, however, not yet been finalised.

Radio Stations in Rajasthan

3887. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of Radio Stations working in Rajasthan;

(b) whether Government propose to establish new Radio Stations in the State in the near future; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) Six.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The approved 6th Plan, contained a scheme for a new Radio Station with 1 kw mw transmitter at Kota. Construction of the building is in progress. The Station will be ready for commissioning by March, 1986.

Planning Commission has approved, in principle, the setting up of a Radio Station at Barmer with 20 kw mw transmitter, multi-purpose studios, receiving facilities and staff quarters, subject to the outlay being fitted within the outlay to be approved for 7th Plan. This Station is expected to start functioning during 7th Plan period (1985-90).

Allotment of Foodgrains to State under NREP and RLEGP

3888. SHRI SATYAGOPAL MISRA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) State-wise allotment of foodgrains under NREP and RLEGP during 1984-85; and

(b) the quantity of foodgrains released to different State Governments under NREP and RLEGP upto 31 March, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). A statement indicating State-wise allotment of foodgrains under NREP and RLEGP during the year 1984-85 and the details of quantity of foodgrains released to them upto 31st March, 1985 is enclosed.

Statement

Statement showing allocation/release of foodgrains during 1984-85 under National Rural Employment Programme/Rural Landless Employment Guarntee Programme (NREP/RLEGP).

(In MTs.)

Sl. No.	States/UTs.	N. R. E. P.		R. L. E. G. P.	
		Quantity allocated	Quantity released	Quantity allocated	Quantity released
1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	Andhra Pradesh	23500	22964	24750	24750
2.	Assam	5840	5723	6750	6750
3.	Bihar	43000	43000	41910	41910
4.	Gujarat	8533	8533	8890	8890
5.	Haryana	1666	1666	1620	1620
6.	Himachal Pradesh	1280	1280	1820	1820
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	2200	2138	1880	1880
8.	Karnataka	19534	20294	18080	18080
9.	Kerala	13400	13028	11750	11750
10.	Madhya Pradesh	20000	19850	27860	27860
11.	Maharashtra	25100	25100	32920	32920
12.	Manipur	300	300	280	280
13.	Meghalaya	304	304	470	470
14.	Nagaland	430	430	250	250

1	2	3	4	5	6
15.	Orissa	17500	17111	18750	18750
16.	Punjab*	1525	—*	2140	—*
17.	Rajasthan	6110	6110	6670	6670
18.	Sikkim	350	350	220	220
19.	Tamil Nadu	32500	33401	31790	31790
20.	Tripura	1650	1594	1030	1030
21.	Uttar Pradesh	49536	49536	48710	48710
22.	West Bengal	33251	33251	32080	32080
23.	A & N Islands	260	260	310	310
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	400	400	220	220
25.	Chandigarh	35	35	40	40
26.	D & N Haveli	150	150	180	180
27.	Delhi	20	40	90	90
28.	Goa, Daman & Diu	250	135	270	270
29.	Lakshadweep	50	71	50	50
30.	Mizoram	180	180	200	200
31.	Pondicherry	275	275	200	200
	TOTAL :	309129	307509	322180	320040

* Granted exemption from distribution of foodgrains under NREP and RLEGP.

T. V. Centres without Studio Facilities

3889. SHRI SRIBALLAV PANIGRAHI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the places where TV transmission center are functioning without studio facilities;

(b) the reasons thereof and whether TV programmes are not affected thereby;

(c) whether Sambalpur in Orissa is coming under this category of TV centres;

(d) whether there has been any representation from the people of that place demanding establishment of a studio there; and

(e) if so, the action taken in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) the details have been given in the attached statement.

(b) to (e). Facilities for production of TV programmes, including studios, are provided in phases, subject to availability of resources. Representations have been received, from time to time for provision of such facilities at several places, including Sambalpur in Orissa. Extension of this facility to Sambalpur will depend on the actual availability of resources for this purpose during the furure Plan periods.

Statement

TV Centres without Studio Facilities

1. **Assam :**
    1. Tezpur
    2. Dibrugarh
    3. Silchar
2. **Andhra Pradesh :**
    1. Kakinada
    2. Vijayawada
    3. Tirupati
    4. Nellore
    5. Cuddapah
    6. Karimnagar
    7. Vishakhapatnam
    8. Nizamabad
    9. Warangal
    10. Rajahmundry
    11. Kurnool
    12. Anantpur
    13. Adoni
    14. Mehboobnagar
3. **Bihar :**
    1. Muzaffarpur
    2. Patna
    3. Gaya
    4. Munger
    5. Dhanbad
    6. Jamshedpur
    7. Purnea
    8. Bhagalpur
4. **Gujarat :**
    1. Ahmedabad
    2. Vedodra
    3. Surat
    4. Bhavnagar
    5. Paten
    6. Bharuch
    7. Navasari
    8. Dwarka
5. **Haryana :**
    1. Hissar
    2. Bhiwani
6. **Himachal Pradesh :**
    1. Simla
    2. Kulu
    3. Kasauli
7. **Jammu & Kashmir :**
    1. Jammu
    2. Kargil
    3. Leh
8. **Karnataka :**
    1. Gulbarga
    2. Mangalore
    3. Devangere
    4. Bhadravati
    5. Bijapur
    6. Bellary
    7. Gadag-Betgari
    8. Raichur
    9. Dharwad
    10. Mysore
    11. Belgaum
    12. Hospet

9. **Kerala :**
    1. Calicut
    2. Cochin
    3. Cannanore
    4. Palghat
10. **Madhya Pradesh :**
    1. Raipur
    2. Bhopal
    3. Indore
    4. Gwalior
    5. Jabalpur
    6. Bilaspur
    7. Sagar
    8. Rewa
    9. Ratlam
    10. Murwara
    11. Burhanpur
11. **Maharashtra :**
    1. Pune
    2. Akola
    3. Nasik
    4. Kolhapur
    5. Ahmednagar
    6. Jalna
    7. Aurangabad
    8. Dhule
    9. Latur
    10. Amravati
    11. Sholapur
    12. Parbhani
    13. Chandrapur
    14. Nanded
    15. Jalgaon
    16. Gondiya
    17. Sangli
    18. Malagaon
    19. Bhusawal
12. **Manipur :**
    1. Imphal
13. **Meghalaya :**
    1. Shillong
    2. Tura
14. **Nagaland :**
    1. Kohima
15. **Orissa :**
    1. Sambalpur
    2. Behrampur
    3. Rourkela
    4. Koraput
16. **Punjab :**
    1. Amritsar
    2. Bhatinda
    3. Pathankot
17. **Rajasthan :**
    1. Jaipur
    2. Suratgarh
    3. Ganganagar
    4. Jodhpur
    5. Udaipur
    6. Kota
    7. Alwar
    8. Khatri
    9. Bikaner
    10. Bhilwara
    11. Ajmer
    12. Jaisalmer
    13. Barmer
18. **Sikkim :**
    1. Gangtok

19. Tamil Nadu :

1. Tiruchirapalli
2. Vellore
3. Salem
4. Kodaikanal
5. Coimbatore
6. Kumbakonam

20. Tripura :

1. Agartala

21. Uttar Pradesh :

1. Mussorie
2. Kanpur
3. Deoria
4. Allahabad
5. Shahjahanpur
6. Sultanpur
7. Rai-Bareilly
8. Bareilly
9. Agra
10. Jhansi
11. Nainital
12. Varanasi
13. Rampur
14. Farukhabad
15. Faizabad
16. Etawah
17. Aligarh
18. Moradabad
19. Pauri
20. Bahraich
21. Sambhal
22. Pithoragarh

22. West Bengal :

1, Malda
2. Asansol
3. Khragapur
4. Bardhaman
5. Balurghat
6. Shanti Niketan
7. Murshidabad
8. Kurseong

UNION TERRITORIES

1. Andaman Nicobar Islands :

1. Port Blair
2. Car Nicobar

2. Arunachal Pradesh :

1. Itanagar

3. Goa, Daman & Diu :

1, Panaji

4. Mizoram :

1. Aizawal

5. Pondicherry

1. Pondicherry

Distribution of Surplus Land to Landless

3890. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any machinery has been devised between State and Union Government to distribute the surplus land during Seventh Plan period and to frame a policy for collective farming through co-operatives; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). The Seventh Five Year Plan 1985-90 is yet to be finalised.

Report of the Committee on Child Labour

3891. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government statistics show as to how many children are engaged in labour between the age group of 7 to 14;

(b) steps Government have taken to protect the children from exploitation;

(c) whether Government have received the report of the Committee of Labour Ministers of four states constituted to study the problem;

(d) if not, when the report is expected; and

(e) reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The Registrar General of India has intimated that the statistics regarding child labour in the country according to 1981 census has not been compiled in their office so far. However, according to 1971 census the number of workers in the age group 0-14 years was 10.7 million.

(b) While it may not be possible in the near future to eliminate child labour completely in the socio-economic condition prevailing in the country, it has been Government's consistent endeavour to ensure that children compelled to work by circumstances should not be exploited and should be able to work in better conditions of health and hygiene. Government has formulated projects connected with the welfare of working children for execution through voluntary agencies in the field. Besides, in pursuance of the recommendations of the Committee on Child Labour, a Central Advisory Board on child labour has been set up to advise the Government on the problems of child labour. The state Governments and the Union Territory Administrations have been requested to also set up State and District level boards on child labour.

A committee consisting of State Labour Ministers was set up, as per decision in last Labour Minister's Conference to examine the question of minimum age of a child for entry into employment and the need for comprehensive legislation on child labour·

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) and (e). Does not arise.

Production of Oil Seeds

3892. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received suggestions to increase growth rate in the production of oil seeds for meeting the edible oil needs of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The Government of India have received suggestions from the Central Organisation for Oil Industry and Trade, Bombay, that a production target of 75-80 lakh tonnes of Vegetable oils might be achieved by the end of Seventh Plan. The measures suggested for achieving this include corporate/joint sector farming for the production of good variety seed, encouraging plantation of oilseed bearing trees, use of fallow and desert areas for oilseed cultivation, increasing irrigated area under oilseeds at least by one per cent, exemption of land under oilseed specially marginal and marshy lands from land revenue, putting into practice technological advances at farms' level and increasing the production of rice bran oil.

(c) The Government is taking every possible steps to increase the production of oilseeds in the country These suggestions among others, are taken into consideration by the Government while formulating the programmes for oilseeds development.

Induction of IEs, FEOs and EAs into the Central Information Service

3893. SHRI PRAKASH CHANDRA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had taken a decision as far back as March, 1984 to induct Inspectors of Exhibition, Field Exhibition Officers and Exhibition Assistants of the Exhibition Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting to the Central Information Service;

(b) if so, whether Government finalised the list of officers proposed to be inducted and details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) whether Government have fixed a time limit for implementing the decision ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) The Government decided in March, 1984 to upgrade the pay scales of the posts of Field Exhibition Officers and Exhibition Assistants with a view to facilitate their inclusion in the appropriate grades of the Central Information Service.

(b) and (c). The actual induction of the incumbents can be made only after they are assessed suitable for appointment in the relevant grades of the Service. Their personnel data and other necessary documents are in the process of completion to enable the Union Public Service Commission to assess their suitability for the purpose.

(d) Whereas all efforts will be made to complete the process of induction of the officers concerned into the service, it is not possible to lay down any specific time frame for the same.

Loss Suffered by ESIC

3894. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Employees State Insurance Corporation after running profitably for many years has joined the ranks of losing public sector undertakings;

(b) if so, details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to expand the scheme to the workers whose monthly income is Rs. 1600/- to sustain losses; and

(d) if so, the details of proposals to get more profit to Employees State Insurance Corporation ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) and (b). The E.S.I. Corporation is a service Organisation responsible for administering the ESI Scheme and not a Public Sector Undertaking run on commercial basis. It is, however, a fact that the revenue budget of the Corporation for the year 1983-84 was in deficit of Rs. 2.31 crores. The Corporation is likely to have some deficit during the year 1984-85 also. These deficits are mainly due to reduction in the contribution income on account of the employees drawing wages beyond Rs. 1000/-going out of coverage and increase in expenditure on provision of medical benefit and payment of cash benefits.

(c) The wage limit for coverage under the Act has been raised from Rs. 1000/- to Rs. 1600/-per month with effect from 27.1.1985, so as to extend the beneficial provisions of the Act to a large number of employees who had gone out of coverage due to rise in their wages beyond Rs. 1000/-.

(d) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Houses for Low and Middle Income Group

3895. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Development Authority builds houses for middle and low income groups on hire-purchase basis;

(b) if so, the time by which new registration for these houses is likely to be started in near future; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). DDA proposes to float a new registration scheme for retired/retiring persons in the next 2-3 months. There is, however, no immediate proposal to float new registration scheme in general category in view of huge backlog of registrants under Hudco pattern scheme and some backlog under general housing scheme.

A new self-financing registration scheme is also proposed to be announced shortly.

[*English*]

Labour Cases Awaiting Adjudication in the Country

3896. SHRI BRAJMOHAN MOHANTY: Will the Ministry of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of labour disputes awaiting adjudication in the country on 31 March, 1985;

(b) whether any steps have been taken to expedite the process of disposal of the disputes; if so, details thereof;

(c) what are the main reasons of growing labour unrest and loss of mandays; and

(d) whether Government are considering to improve the conciliatory machinery to be more effective and if so, steps taken in this direction ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH). (a) The information is being collected and will be laid on the table of the House.

(b) Through the Industrial Disputes (Amendment) Act, 1982 a new sub-section 10(2A) has been introduced so that in respect of Industrial Disputes in connection with individual workman awards are given within a period of three months. Section 15 of the Act has been amended so that Government can specify a period in the order referring Industrial Dispute to Tribunals for submission of awards. Also an amendment has been carried out to Section 33(C) of the Act. As a result applications under section 33 C(2) have to be decided by the Labour Court within a period not exceeding three months. If any extension is to be granted the Presiding Officer of the Labour Court has to give reasons which have to be recorded in writing. Section 33 of the Industrial Disputes Act has been amended so as to ensure that the orders and applications under Section 33(5) of the Act are also delivered within a period of three months from the date of receipt of such applications. Further, the Industrial Disputes Rules have been amended to lay down a time frame for disposal of cases by the Labour Courts, Tribunals or National Tribunals.

(c) Industrial disputes have generally taken place due to disputes over wages and allowances, bonus, personnel and retrenchment, leave and hours of work and indiscipline and violence. However, number of industrial disputes declined from 2,431 in 1983 to 1,884 in 1984 and number of mandays lost from 34.48 million in 1983 to 30.82 million in 1984 in the country.

(d) The following steps have been taken to improve the conciliatory machinery to be more effective :

(i) Besides Chief Labour Commissioner (Central), Joint Chief Labour Commissioner, Deputy Chief Labour Commissioners (Central), Regional Labour Commissioner (C), Assistant Labour Commissioner (C) and certain Labour Enforcement Officers(C) have been vested with conciliation powers. After 1.3.1980, four additional posts of Regional Labour Commissioners (C) and 18 additional posts of Assistant Labour Commissioners (C) have been created;

(ii) 34 Conciliation Officers have been deputed for training to National Labour Institute from 15.7.76 till date and 36 Conciliation Officers have been imparted in-service training in Chief Labour Commissioner's Office during January, 1981 to November, 1983; and

(iii) Telex machines have been installed in offices of all Regional Labour Commissioners (C).

Amount Paid to the Director and Producer of 'Ham Log'

3897. SHRI RAM BHAGAT PASWAN Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the total amount paid to the Producer and director of Hindi serial "Ham Log" for telecasting it over the television;

(b) the particulars of Directors and Managing Directors of "Time and Video Space";

(c) whether "Time and Video Space" has exported any film; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL): (a) M/s. Time and Space Video Communication offered to produce a TV serial titled "Ham Log" and get it sponsored over Doordarshan on the normal terms and conditions of sponsorship. The sponsore pay Doordarshan Rs. 35,000 per episode as telecast fee, incur all expenditure on production of programmes and give the finished product to Doordarshan. Doordarshan is not involved with the actual production of programmes and has not incurred any expenditure on making this serial.

(b) M/s. Time and Space Video Communication are a partnership concern with 3 partners, viz., Smt. Sobha Doctor, Smt. Chanda Oberoi and Shri Diwakar Mehra.

(c) This Ministry is not aware of any film having been exported by M/s. Time and Space Video Communication.

(d) Does not arise.

Loss Suffered or Profit Earned by FCI

3899. SHRI C. D. GAMIT : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise details of loss suffered or profit earned by FCI during the years 1981 to 1984; and

(b) the main reasons for suffering loss ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) After taking into account the subsidy payable to the Food Corporation of India on foodgrains transaction on behalf of the Government, the net profits (before taxation) earned by the Corporation during the years 1981-84 are as follows —

Year	(*Rs. in lakhs*)
1981-82	190.78
1982-83	529.72
1983-84	317.67

(b) Does not arise.

Training for Farmers for Developing Commercial Crops

3900. KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central schemes have been introduced to train the farmers for developing commercial crops in the country;

(b) if so, whether any such scheme has been introduced in Madhya Pradesh for providing necessary training to the farmers; and

(c) the details of the incentives given and training provided in the different areas in Madhya Pradesh for the development of commercial crops like cotton, sugarcane etc. In the Sixth Plan, year-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Centrally Sponsored National Oilseeds Development Project is in operation in Madhya Pradesh for trainiag of farmers in oilseeds.

The Krishi Vigyan Kendras operating in Bhopal, Indore, Chhindwara, Bilaspur and Jhabua impart vocational training to farmers in the field of agriculture including commercial crops.

The Government of Madhya Pradesh also arrange training of farmers at the Farmers' Training Centres in 11 districts of the State.

(c) A statement is attached

Statement

(*a*) *Number of farmers/farm women trained at Farmers Training Centres in Madhya Pradesh during 6th Plan*

Sl. No.	District	1979-80 No. of courses	1979-80 No. of Farmers trained	1980-81 No. of Courses	1980-81 No. of Farmers trained	1981-82 No. of Courses	1981-82 No. of Farmers trained	1982-83 No. of Courses	1982-83 No. of Farmers trained	1983-84 No. of Courses	1983-84 No. of farmers trained
1.	Gwalior	223	5163	202	4597	76	1860	86	1905	96	2156
2.	Bastar	188	3574	168	3149	197	2746	155	2083	139	2468
3.	Hoshangabad	58	2213	235	5860	121	3444	122	2717	125	2996
4.	Indore	172	4823	468	9869	147	4636	200	7303	139	6331
5.	Jabalpur	126	3383	137	3874	128	2750	52	1539	—	—
6.	Morena	118	2816	174	3447	139	3716	166	2477	18	2517
7.	Raipur	173	12332	134	3746	181	5321	145	2579	159	3037
8.	Raisen	94	2802	253	7466	177	4708	136	3855	131	3697
9.	Rewa	156	3988	146	3420	98	2567	116	3268	97	2732
10.	Shivpuri	97	2432	102	3230	119	2946	32	655	239	5340
11.	West Nimar Bengal	—	—	7	123	12	174	12	195	52	1193

(*b*) *Assistance under the Centrally Sponsored Intensive Cotton Development Programme* :

Financial assistance is being provided to the State Government of Madhya Pradesh at the rate of 50% of the total cost involved in staff, contingencies, production of breeders and foundation seed of improved varieties of cotton and subsidy on certified seed, aerial and ground spraying/dusting, plant protection equipments and demonstrations.

Export of Wheat to Middle-East Countries

*3901. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK: Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is a good scope for exporting wheat to Middle-East countries;

(b) whether Government have received any wheat import order from the Middle East countries; and

(c) if so, the details of the programme if any to export wheat to Middle East countries ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) It is a fact that several Middle-East countries are importers of wheat.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

Wholesale and Retail Price Index of Essential Commodities

3902. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state the latest wholsale and retail price index of essential commodities between January 1984 and 31st January 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : The wholesale price indices of selected commodities in January, 1984 and January, 1985 are given in the attatched statement. The retail price index is not being constructed by the Government.

Statement

Wholesale Price Index Numbers of Selected Commodities in January, 1984 and January 1985

(Base 1970-71)

Commodity	Wholesale Price Index Numbers	
	January, 1984	January, 1985
1	2	3
Rice	277.0	265.2
Wheat	225.6	216.2
Jowar	254.5	241.1
Bajra	220.6	220.4
Gram	402.3	543.7
Arhar	422.9	306.4
Moong	361.4	465.4
Masoor	443.3	454.7
Urad	273.9	404.4
Potatoes	162.6	110.8
Onions	351.0	219.3

1	2	3
Milk	258.6	265.6
Fish	441.0	473.2
Meat	387.6	463.0
Chillies	119.1	314.0
Tea	472.4	481.2
Coke	547.3	575.2
Kerosene	343.2	346.2
Atta	230,7	210.6
Sugar	229.3	246.1
Gur	340.3	365.2
Vanaspati	251.8	278.6
Groundnut Oil	312.7	320.1
Mustard Oil	392.1	249.4
Coconut Oil	417.5	494.2
Gingelly Oil	316.7	295.3
Salt	221.1	246.3
Cotton cloth (mills)	253.6	260.0
Soap	279.2	323.6
Matches	129.0	129.0

Research for Better Cane Crop by ICAR

3903. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any research has been undertaken for better cane crop by the I.C.A.R. so far;

(b) if so, the result of the research work undertaken;

(c) in what conditions cane can be cultivated; and

(d) whether cane goods manufacture is a labour intensive job ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). No, Sir. The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is doing research work on sugarcane only. This question appears to relate to ratten can which is a forest product and used for the manufacture of furniture and other house hold articles, and not to sugarcane which is distinct from rattan cane. ICAR has no programme of research on such rattan cane.

Out of Turn Allotment on Medical Grounds to Government Employees

3904. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKHARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the present policy with regard to sanction of out of turn allotment of Government residential accommodation on medical grouds to Government servants, details thereof;

(b) the total number of cases in which Government have sanctioned out of turn allotment of residential accommodation to Government servants in Delhi since he assumed office; and

(c) the present position with regard to waiting list for allotment of Government accommodation, category-wise and steps proposed to reduce the waiting period for Government servants ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Out-of-turn alloments on medical grounds are sanctioned in cases where the Government servants or their eligible family members suffer from Malignant Cancer cr Pulmonary T.B. in active phase with risk to others and sputum for A.F.B. is positive; or where the Government servants suffer from physical orthopaedic handicap;

(b) Fifty six.

(c) As on 1.1.1985, 72,847 employees were waiting for allotment of general pool accommodation for their entitled types as indicated below :

Type	Number of employees waiting
A	11,456
B	32.593
C	20,106
D	5,866
E	1,469
E-I	703
E-II	388
E-III	266
Total :	72,847

The Government propose to undertake a substantial programme of construction and augumentation of residential accommodation in the 7th Five Year Plan subject to availability of funds.

Stocks of High Yielding Wheat Seeds

3905. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether large stocks of certified seeds of high-yielding wheat varieties are lying unsold with various Government agencies;

(b) if so, the quantum of stock lying unsold with Government agencies in each State;

(c) whether such seed is not fit for next season because of uncertainty of germination percentage; and

(d) if so, what action Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The quantum of wheat seed stock lying with different Government/Institutional agencies of the States as well as Government of India are as follows :

	(in quintals)
Rajasthan State Seeds Corporation	1,10,396
Maharashtra State Seeds Corporation	1,00,234
Uttar Pradesh State Seeds and Tarai Development Corporation	55,000
Haryana State Seeds Corporation	39,515
Punjab State Seeds Corporation	37,773
Gujarat State Seeds Corporation and Department of Agriculture	22,328
Madhya Pradesh State Seeds Corporation	16,036
National Seeds Corporation	30,000
State Farms Corporation of India	19,545
West Bengal State Seeds Corporation	13,345

(c) The surplus stock of wheat seed can easily be used for sowing during next season as there would not be any problem if stored properly.

(d) Action has already been initiated to keep wheat seed in buffer stock and for disposal through export.

Distress Sale of Potatoes in Uttar-Pradesh

3906. SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are aware of the news-item appearing in the "Times of India" (Published from Delhi), dated 4 April, 1985 wherein it has been stated that NAFED and PCF fail to purchase the entire potato crop; and

(b) if so, the veracity thereof and the difficulties being faced by Government in the purchase of potatoes ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. However, it is not correct to say that NAFED and PCF were expected to purchase the entire potato crop in Uttar Pradesh under the market intervention scheme. The scheme envisages that potatoes of fair average quality (FAQ) would be purchased at Rs. 50/- per quintal by the PCF and NAFED designated as the State and Central agencies respectively and the losses suffered on the operations would be shared equally between the State Government and the Central Government. The scheme has been in operation since 19th January, 1985. The number of districts covered under the scheme has since increased to 19 and the purchase centres to 65. Instructions have also been issued by the State Government that wherever the price of potato falls below the indicative price, purchase centres should be opened promptly for starting the market intervention operations. Upto 11.4.85, 1.79 lakh quintals of potato have been purchased under the scheme. The operations are continuing. PCF and NAFED would continue to be in the market so long the ruling market price of FAQ potato is below Rs. 50/- per quintal.

Funds Released by LIC and HUDCO to Housing Cooperatives in Orissa

3907. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the details in regard to housing schemes being implemented in rural areas in Orissa;

(b) whether many housing schemes are not being implemented fully due to constraint on their resources; and

(c) whether Government, L.I.C. and HUDCO will release adequate funds to the housing cooperatives, particularly in backward State like Orissa where there is greater concentration of S.C. and S.T. population ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) The Scheme of allotment of rural house sites and construction assistance is under implementation in Orissa.

(b) and (c). Housing, being a State subject, all Social housing Schemes are being implemented by the State Govts. The Union provides financial assistance in the shape of block loans and block grants without being tied up to any particular scheme. The State Governments are also free to formulate and implement scheme of different categories including SC/ST.

LIC loans are given to the States on the recommendations of the Planning Commission each year. HUDCO's loan assistance is available to the registered Primary Housing Cooperative Society as well as to the State Level Apex Housing Finance Society in accordance with its guidelines.

Publications of Objectionable Reports in Newspapers

3908. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Press Council has received any complaints regarding the publication of objectionable/incorrect reports in newspapers showing any bias and ill will during the past 3 years; and

(b) if so, the details thereof and action taken by the Press Council against the erring Publisher/Editors/Journalists ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). The Council received 553 complaints under Section 14 of the Press Council Act 1978 during the past three calendar years. Out of which 126 complaints were decided as under : --

Warning was issued in	19 cases
Admonition was issued in	4 cases
Censure was done in	24 cases
Complaints upheld in	11 cases
Settlement was affected in	26 cases
Complaints were discussed for non-prosecution in	2 cases
Complaints discussed/rejected	40 cases
Total	126 cases

125 complaints are pending at various stages of inquiry. The remaining 302 complaints were disposed of as under :—

48 cases were summarily rejected as there were no sufficient ground for holding an inquiry (Provise to Section 14(1) of the Act).

3 cases were closed as the matter had become subjudice (Section 14 (3) of the Act 251 cases were closed at the preliminary stage for non-compliance with certain requirements as laid-down in the Press Council (Procedures for Inquiry) Regulations 1979.

Production of Documentary Films

3909. PROF. NARAIN CHAND PARASHAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to encourage the production of Documentary and Features Films in languages/dialects not included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution; and

(b) if so, the details of financial and technical assistance provided by the Film Corporation of India or any other Government agency for this purpose during the past three years including the current financial year ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). There is no specific scheme for encouraging production of documentary and feature films in languages/dialects not included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution. However, the Films Division has produced, in the last three years, 4 featurettes in tribal dialects and one more featurette is under production. The National Film Development Corporation has a scheme for financial assistance for prodnction of films. Films produced in all Indian languages are eligible to receive financial assistance under this scheme. Similarly, films in all Indian languages can enter for the National Film Awards. In fact, one award in the Best Feature Film category has been provided for languages other than those specified in the Eighth-Schedule to the Constitution.

I.L.O. Report on Safety and Security of Textile Workers

3910. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether the job security in textile industry which is hardest hit by structural changes, was considered by Government, employer and worker delegates to the textile committee of the International Labour Organisation at their meeting held in Geneva on 10 October, 1984;

(b) whether the meeting also examined occupational safety and health in this sector;

(c) whether the recent International Labour Organisation report on security of employment and income in the light of structural changes in the textile industry has analysed the prospects of the industry in the north and south; and

(d) if so, the steps being taken by the Government in view of report ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). The 11th Session of the ILO's Textile Committee held in October, 1984 discussed problems relating to security of employment and income in the light of the struclural changes in the Textile Industry and also the problem of occupational safety and health in the Textile Industry. The conclusions of the Committee are still to be approved by the Governing Body of the ILO.

(d) Does not arise at this stage.

Amendments to the Plantation Labour Act

3911. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Labour Secretaries of eight States and one Union Territory had suggested a number of amendments in the Plantation Labour Act to make it more broad based, particularly in relation to the definition of "family" and "employer";

(b) whether a meeting of the State Secretaries was held in the month of September 1984 to review the working of the Plantation Labour Act, 1951 which was amended in 1982; and

(c) if so, the details of suggestions made at the meeting and the changes likely to be made in the Plantation Labour ct, 1951 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). A meeting of Labour Secretaries of Plantations States was held on 15.9.1984 and representatives of the Governments of Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Kerala, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka and Andaman & Nicobar Islands attended it. At this meeting certain suggestions for amendment to the definitions of the terms 'family', 'employer', 'worker' and certain other aspects of the law were considered. At present, Government is not considering any further amendments to the Plantation Labour Act. The conference also discussed effective steps for extension of welfare, medical and housing facilities and strengthening measures for safety and protection from occupational hazards to the plantation workers.

Allotment of Plots Instead of Flats by DDA

3912. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of persons registered with the Delhi Development Authority for allotment of flats under each category such as LIG, MIG and Self-Financing Scheme etc.;

(b) whether there is a proposal under consideration of Government to allot plots of land to these registered applicants instead of flats; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard and when the final decision is likely to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) The total number of registered persons awaiting allotment under different housing schemes is as under :

Sl. No.	Name of the Scheme	No. of persons awaiting allotment category-wise			Total
		Janta	LIG	MIG	
1.	General Housing Scheme	268	1744	1428	3440
2.	New Pattern Scheme 1979	42305	56584	39209	138098
3.	Self Financing Scheme	—	—	—	16807

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise, in view of reply to part (b) above.

Establishment of New Flour Mills

3913. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of FOOD AND SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of flour mills, both mini and big, functioning in the country and their number, State-wise;

(b) whether Government have imposed a ban on the establishment of new flour mills in the country; if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) whether many entrepreneurs of various States and particularly from Orissa have applied for issue of permission and licence to establish more flour mills in private sector; if so, the number of such applications received from each State and the action taken by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) A statement indicating the number of roller flour mills functioning in each State/Union Territory is attached.

(b) Keeping in view the capacity already created in the roller flour milling industry and the level of utilisation by the existing units, the Central Government had decided in May, 1980, as a general policy, not to issue fresh permissions for setting up of roller flour mills in the country.

(c) A number of applications have been received for grant of Industrial licences under Industries (Development and Regulation) Act or permission/milling licence under Wheat Roller Flour Mills (L & C) Order, 1957, for establishment of roller flour mills in various States/Union Territories in the country, including Orissa: All such applications are being rejected, except in six cases pertaining to remote, hilly, tribal regions, where permissions/letter of intents have been issued in relaxation of the general policy.

Statement

Statement indicating the number of Rolling Flour Mills in each State/Union Territory as on 31.3.1985

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	No. of mills
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	52
2.	Assam	20
3.	Bihar	31
4.	Gujarat	24
5.	Haryana	12
6.	Himachal Pradesh	3
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	16
8.	Karnataka	42
9.	Kerala	11
10.	Madhya Pradesh	10
11.	Maharashtra	40

1	2	3
12.	Meghalaya	1
13.	Nagaland	2
14.	Orissa	18
15.	Punjab	21
16.	Rajasthan	5
17.	Sikkim	1
18.	Tamil Nadu	42
19.	Tripura	2
20.	Uttar Pradesh	58
21.	West Bengal	35
22.	Chandigarh	2
23.	Delhi	12
24.	Goa	1
25.	Pondicherry	1
	Total	462

Short Supply of Un-Filtered Water in Delhi/New Delhi

3914. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is short supply of unfiltered water used for kitchen garden, watering trees and parks in Delhi, particularly in New Delhi, area;

(b) if so, whether due to that the trees and plants have dried up and are dying in large number;

(c) the reasons therefor; and

(d) steps being taken to regulate the supply of un-filtered water in Delhi and New Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) It is not correct that trees and plants are dying in large number but they may be affected adversely if the present shortage of un-filtered water continues.

(c) The short supply of water is due to no rain fall in catchment areas of the region resulting in receded water level in Yamuna.

(d) (i) Efforts are being made to get some more water from Wazirabad Barrage.

(ii) 28 Tubewells have already been commissioned and 62 are being installed.

(iii) Irrigation by artificial means like water tankers and water trolleys.

Allotment of Rice and Wheat to Orissa

3915. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK:
SHRI SOMNATH RATH:

Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state:

(a) the quantity of rice and wheat allotted from Central Government pool to Orissa for distribution through ration shops per year during last three years;

(b) whether Government of Orissa have approached the Central Government for additional quantity for distribution in the rural areas; and

(c) if so, whether Centre proposes to allot the required quantity, considering the deficiency which the State Government are facing ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) The Government of Orissa were alloted the following quantittes of rice and wheat for public distribution system during the last 3 years :

(In '000 tonnes)

Year	Quantities alloted	
	Rice	Wheat
1982	70.0	90.0
1983	190.0	225.0
1984	75.0	221.0

(b) No, Sir; no specific request for additional quantities for rural areas has been received.

(c) Does not arise.

Increase in Advertisement Rates

3916. SHRI R. M. BHOYE :
SHRI N. DENNIS :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the procedure adopted regarding the increase in the advertisement rates;

(b) whether Government propose any further increase in advertisement rates; and

(c) if so, to what extent and when ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) The advertisement rates are fixed as per the criteria laid down in the Rate Structure, in force, which is primarily based on the cost of production of newspapers/periodicals. Following a general rise in the cost of production, particularly newsprint and wages, an increase of 20% was allowed from October 1, 1981.

(b) and (c). There are demands for further increase in the advertisement rates. However, no decision has so far been taken in this regard.

T. V. Service through INSAT in Rural Areas of Orissa

3917. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of State for INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the plan regarding the T V service through INSAT for rural areas in Orissa;

(b) to what extent its service is being utilised in the areas covered, particularly rural areas under the scheme of Central Government ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) The VI Plan scheme for TV utilisation of INSAT in the State of Orissa comprised augmentation of facilities at Upagrah Doordarshan Kendra, Cuttack and provision of 400 direct reception community viewing TV sets at selected electrified villages in the districts of Bolangir and Dhenkanal. The purpose of the scheme is to make available educational TV programmes for primary school children and area-specific programmes for rural viewers through the community viewing mode.

(b) Educational TV programmes and area-specific programmes are being telecast as envisaged in the scheme. For community viewing, 386 direct reception sets have been installed in the selected districts of Bolangir and Dhenkanal. These are in addition to the 279 VHF community viewing TV sets already operating in Sambalpur district. Action is also on hand to repair some of the direct reception sets which developed faults after installation. To make these programmes available to a wider viewer-ship, the 10 KW TV transmitter, Cuttack as well as the Low Power Transmitters elsewhere in Orissa also relay the programmes.

Seminar on Metropolitan Transport

3918. SHRI B. V. DESAI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Seminar on Metropolitan Transport has recommended a funding platform with the participation of Central, State and local authorities to finance the metropolitan transport in the country;

(b) if so, whether this seminar was organised by the Times Research Foundation in which representatives from eight Union Ministries and almost all the State Government transport departments were the participants;

(c) if so, the decisions taken at the Seminar and whether Government have examined those decisions; and

(d) if so, what steps are being taken to implement them ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d). Various decisions taken at the Seminar are under examination by the Government.

Shortage of Fertilisers in Bihar

3919. SHRI VIJAY KUMAR YADAV : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether during the last six months, especially in the last kharif season, there was a great shortage of fertilisers in almost all parts of the country, particularly in Bihar;

(b) if so, the details of the shortage, State-wise and reasons thereof;

(c) the concrete steps Government propose to take to get over the fertiliser shortage in the country, particularly in Bihar ;

(d) whether Government have any proposal to open a fertiliser factory in Bihar for removing the shortage of fertilisers; and

(e) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). The supply position of fertilisers during the last Kharif season as also the last six months has, by and large, been satisfactory. However, pockets of availability stress in brief spells especially during Rabi, 84-85, were reported mainly from Bihar, due to movement and production constraints. The Government of India took immediate action to rush adequate quantities of fertilisers to Bihar as a result of which the State recorded consumption level as agreed to during the zonal Conference held before the last Rabi Season.

(c) Adequate levels of imports and pre-positioning of stocks of fertilisers in advance of the season have been planned to mitigate against shortages. In the case of Bihar, in addition to these steps, allocations have been increased by about 70 per cent for the current kharif, 1985 season over the consumption level of the last kharif, in addition to routing the supplies through dependable sources.

(d) There is no proposal at present to open a fertiliser factory in Bihar.

(e) Does not arise.

Computerization of Rural Society

3920. Dr. KRUPASINDHU BHOI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to computerize the rural society after tractor and harvester-combine have become an integral part of rural economy;

(b) if so, the salient features thereof; and

(c) the time by which computer will be introduced in this field ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India has set up a National Informaties Centre under the Department of Electronics under which a nation-wide computer network is being developed in a phase manner. Under this project, a computer will be installed in each district headquarters and connected to the four regional super computers to be established in New Delhi, Hyderabad, Pune and Bhubaneswar through the INSAT Satellite. Information required for supporting the rural economy will be fed through the district level computers for transmission to the computers at the State capitals and thereon to the regional super computers for processing and correlation of information. The same network will be utilised for dissemination of processed and correlated information to the district level computers. For this purpose, a database format has been designed which includes information concerning agriculture and rural Society.

(c) The installation of computers and associated earth Stations for being connected to the Satellite-based network will begin by the end of 1985 and will be completed by the end of 1987.

[*Translation*]

Steps for Effective Role of Press

3921. SHRI KRISHAN PRATAP SINGH : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the steps taken or proposed to be taken to ensure free and healthy press and its effective role in democracy;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). Government's policy towards the press is one of deep commitment to its freedom consistent with high journalistic standards. To ensure a free and healthy press which plays an effective role in democracy, a Press Council has been set up under the Press Council Act 1978. To promote the growth of the Press, the Government provides a number of concessions and facilities to the Press like telegram and teleprinter facilities at concessional tariffs, housing and travel facilities for journalists, accreditation of journalists and provision of information on Government policies, programmes and activities. Besides, the All India Radio broadcasts slow bulletins in Hindi and English to provide news to regional and language press. Concessions are also provided for small and medium newspapers in the Central Government's Advertising Policy and the Newsprint Allocation Policy.

(c) Does not arise.

[*English*]

Improvement of Pay Scales of Lift Operators of CPWD

3922. SHRI C. K. KUPPUSWAMY : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether lift operators under CPWD have represented to Government in regard to improvement in their pay scale and other demands;

(b) whether these employees had to resort to fast unto death on more than one occasion to press for their demands;

(c) if so, what are their demands; and

(d) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The employees resorted to fast once on 21st October, 1983 and again on 28th March, 1985.

(c) Their demands are as under:

(i) Recognition of Lift Karmachari Sangh;

(ii) Skilled grade for lift operators in the scale of Rs. 260-400;

(iii) Issue of 3 sets of terricot uniforms instead of 2 sets;

(iv) Supply of shoes and chappals from Bharat Leather Emporium ;

(v) Residential accommodation to lift operators near place of duty;

(vi) Regularisation of lift operators on muster roll after 240 days of service; and

(vii) Supply of jersey and socks.

(d) (i) Category-wise unions are not eligible for recognition;

(ii) The 4th Pay Commission is already considering the revision of pay scales;

(iii) The decision to give 2 set terricot uniforms was taken in consultation with the Lift operators. However, their demand now is for 3 sets of terricot uniforms. The cost of the uniforms now supplied to the Lift operators is much more (Rs. 396/-) than the cost of the uniforms supplied to other Group 'D' employees of the Central Government (Rs. 311/-).

(iv) The Department of Personnel and Administrative Reforms has issued instructions in which they have also fixed the price of shoes at Rs. 52.87 per pair which can be procured from Bharat Leather Emporium, Super Bazar, Central Government Employees Consumer Stores and Khadi Gramodyog Bhavan within the price limit fixed by the DP and AR.

(v) The demand is that the Lift Operators on shift duty be given residential accommodation nearer their place of duty. The category of Lift Operators is not included in the list of essential staff.

(vi) Ban on creation and filling up of posts also applies to regularisation of muster roll workers.

(vii) The demand of the Lift Operators is for better quality of Jerseys and socks.

[*Translation*]

M/S Bhandari Builders Company New Delhi

3923. SHRI RAM BAHADUR SINGH : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether on 22 March, 1985 some MPs had demanded an inquiry against M/s Bhandari Builders Company, Nehru Place, New Delhi for non-payment of wages, allowances, bonus etc. and to avoid unnecessary harrassment to labourers sent abroad and if so, the action taken in this regard; and

(b) whether Government propose to conduct a CBI inquiry into the whole matter and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) one Hon'ble Member of Parliament had sent a complaint dated 22.3.85 against M/s. Bhandari Builders Company, New Delhi regarding non-refund of security and paymemt of dues to Shri Babu Ram Yadav.

The bank guarantee of Rs. 4,000/- has since been released by M/s. Bhandari Builders and handed over to Shri Babu Ram Yadav on April 16, 1985. A cheque of Rs. 1319.39 has also been handed over to Shri Babu Ram Yadav towards full and final settlement of his dues on the same date.

(b) No, Sir.

[*Enghlish*]

Families Selected under IRDP in Gujarat and U.P.

3924. SHRI VIRDHI CHANDER JAIN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to State :

(a) the number of poor families in Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh selected under the Integrated Rural Development Programme so far;

(b) the number of the families out of them which have been given grants by State and Central Governments and Nationalised and Cooperative Banks etc. to enable them to cross the poverty line and the amount of grants given to them, State-wise;

(c) the number of instalments and the amount repaid by these selected families; and

(d) the percentage of families receiving grant who crossed the poverty line ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and b). As against the targets of 6.54 lakh families and 26.41 lakh families respectively set for Gujarat and Uttar Pradesh for the VIth Plan, the number of poor families assisted upto February, 1985 under the Integrated Rural Development Programme in these States is 7.15 lakhs and 33.23 lakhs respectively. The expenditure incurred on them, the bulk of which is towards subsidy is Rs. 5760.81 lakhs and Rs. 25676.22 lakhs respectively (upto February, 1985). The credit mobilised for the same period is Rs. 12388.92 lakhs and Rs. 69886.55 lakhs respectively.

(c) The number of instalments and the amount repaid by the selected families are not monitored by the Government of India.

(d) In order to ascertain the impact of Integrated Rural Development Programme in the country, an evaluation study has been undertaken by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission. The report of the study is still awaited.

Export of Wheat and Rice During 1985-86

3925. SHRI B.V. DESAI : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Food and Agriculture Organisation has stated that India might be able to export rice as well as wheat;

(b) if so, whether this was possible because of the 'Food Outlook' for 1984;

(c) whether rice crop is estimated to be close to record levels for the second successive year;

(d) if so, whether the same position is also true in regard to wheat and Government would be able to export about one million tonnes of wheat;

(e) if so, the latest food stock position with the Government; and

(f) to what extent India will be able to export both rice and wheat during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDAR SINGH) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Food and Agricultre Organisation in its publication 'Food Outlook' for the month of March, 1985, has stated that India might be able to export wheat as well as some rice.

(c) It is currently assessed that production of rice during the year 1984-85 may be close to 59.8 million tonnes achieved during 1983-84.

(d) to (f). On the basis of preliminary reports from the States, it is currently assessed that the production target of 45.6 million tonnes for wheat will be achieved.

The latest stock position of foodgrains with the Government as on 1.4.1985 is as under :-

	(Million tonnes)
Wheat	12.75
Rice	8.55
Coarsegrains	0.12
Total :	21.42

About 6 lakh tonnes of wheat are already committed for export during the year 1985. Basmati rice can be exported on open general licence. Further exports will be undertaken to the extent feasible.

Attack on Journalists

3926. SHRI C. MADHAV REDDI :
SHRI DHARAMPAL SINGH MALIK :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) wherher there has been considerable increase in the cases of assault/murderous attack on journalists in the country during the last 3 years;

(b) if so, the particulars of journalists who were assaulted/attacked in each State during the same period; and

(c) the steps being taken by Government for the safety of journalists in the country ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) to (c). The information is being collected.

Decline in Job Opportunities for Indians in Gulf Countries

3927. SHRI K. MOHANDAS : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is perceptible decline in the job opportunities in the Gulf region for Indians;

(b) if so, the facts thereof; and

(c) measures being taken by Government in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) In the recent years, there is a marginal decline in the number of Indian workers going to these countries for employment.

(b) and (c). The decline in the number of emigrants is primarily due to economic recession in the Gulf countries and virtual completion of infrastructural development. Efforts are afoot to assess the change in the pattern of demand for various categories of workers in these countries. With the enforcement of the Emigration Act, 1983, emigration procedures have becn simplified and delays reduced so as to make recruitment of Indian workers competitive.

Fishery Development Projects in collaboration with Norway Government

3928. SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Norway Government are executing some fishery development projects and programmes of the coastal belts of our country in co-ordination with Union Government and State Governments; if so, the details of the scheme and outcome thereof;

(b) whether the coastal belt of Orissa is included in the programme; if so, the places where such scheme is now under execution and to be executed;

(c) the details of the scheme alongwith financial implication and out-turn thereof;

(d) the targeted time for completion of the project and the benefit to be derived out of it; and

(e) whether the scheme is being implemented near Kasafal north of Balasore district in Orissa; if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). No, Sir. However, a part of coastal belt of Orissa is included for development under the propsed Norwegian aided project on development of traditional fisheries in Balasore.

(c) to (e). The project site of the proposed project is at Kasafal in the Balasore district of Orissa. It is aimed at improving the living conditions of the weaker section of the population who are generally traditional fishermen. It involves construction of roads, ice plants, cold storages, and improvement of the marketing conditions. The project also envisages supply of drinking water, construction of fish curing yards, service station, work shop, jetty and provision of housing and medical facilities to the local fishermen populations. Recently, the Norwegian Agency for International Development (NORAD) has proposed Norwegian Kroner 22.5 million for the implementation of the project. It is targetted to complete the project by 1987. The project is expected to improve the general standard of living of the population of the Kasafal area, specially of the poorest group and the fishermen families. It will be a pilot scheme for gaining experience for possible future development in other part of Balasore Coast line.

OB Van to Bangalore T.V. Center

3929. SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) how many Outdoor Broadcasting (Television) Vans are there in the country;

(b) whether Bangalore T. V. Centre has been provided with a OB Van; and

(c) if not, whether there is any proposal to provide one OB Van to Karnataka, particularly to Bangalore T. V. Center ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) Six.

(b) and (c). OB Vans are provided to Doordarshan Kendras in phases, subject to availability of resources. Provision of OB Van at Doordarshan Kendra, Bangalore would thus depend upon the availability of resources for this purpose during the future Plan period.

Amount Spent on Self-Employment Schmes in States

3930. PROF. P. J. KURIEN : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent on Self-Employment programme in the counry, State-wise;

(b) whether the target has heen achieved;

(c) whether the target has not been achieved in Kerala due to non-co-operation of the banks and if so, the details thereof;

(d) number of applications sanctioned and the number of applications pending in Kerala; and

(e) action being taken to clear these applications ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The main Self-Employment Schemes under implementation in the country are Training of Rural Youth for Self-Employment (TRYSEM) and Scheme for providing Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth. In addition, a scheme to Strengthen Employment Exchanges*/U.E.I.G. Bs for promotion of Self-Employment in 30 selected districts is also being operated. The amount spent on these schemes are contained in three Statements I, II and III respectively attached.

(b) Under the scheme to provide Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth, a target of 2,50,000 persons was fixed for 1983-84. Against this, loan applications in respect of 2,42,405 were sanctioned by banks.

---

* University Employment Information and Guidance Bureau.

(c) to (e). Targets of 13,100 and 13,300 were fixed for Kerala State, under the Scheme for providing Self-Employment to Educated Unemployed Youth, for 1983-84 and 1984-85 respectively. In 1983-84, loans were sanctioned to 13,091 persons. As per the reports received from the State Government till 28.2.1985, 12,494 applications were recommended by the District Industries Centre Task Forces to the banks. The banks have, however, sanctioned loans to 3,490 applicants.

Statement-I

Statement showing Statewise Central funds released, during the period 1979-80 to 1984-85, under the TRYSEM Scheme (position as on 15-1-1985).

Sl. No.	Name of the States/Union Territories.	Amount released (Central Share) (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	68.78
2.	Assam	12.71
3.	Bihar	2.17
4.	Gujarat	13.95
5.	Himachal Pradesh	5.92
6.	Karnataka	24.16
7.	Kerala	1.30
8.	Madhya Pradesh	8.59
9.	Manipur	3.86
10.	Nagaland	0.06
11.	Punjab	2.79
12.	Rajasthan	26.52
13.	Tamil Nadu	7.90
14.	Uttar Pradesh	54.44
15.	West Bengal	0.86
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	2.38
17.	Mizoram	1.67
18.	Pondicherry	0.80

Statement II

Statement showing State-wise amount of loans sanctioned by Banks during 1984-85 under the Scheme of providing Self-Employment to educated unemployed Youth (as on 15-4-1985)

Sl. No.	States/Union Territories.	Amounts of loan sanctioned by banks (Rs. in lakhs).	Figures as on
1.	2.	3.	4.
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1300.00	15-3-85
2.	Assam	7360.00	28-2-85
3.	Bihar	1724.92	15-3-85
4.	Gujarat	620.64	28-2-85
5.	Haryana	413.04	31-10-84
6.	Himachal Pradesh	47.00	28-2-85
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	61.98	18-3-85
8.	Karnataka	2379.00	11-4-85
9.	Madhya Pradesh	35.16	9-4-85
10.	Manipur	186.13	28-2-85
11.	Orissa	568.51	28-2-85
12.	Punjab	2,008.00	28-2-85
13.	Tamil Nadu	2,950.24	23-3-85
14.	Uttar Pradesh	218.62	31-1-85
15.	Andaman & Nicobar Islands	4.80	31-12-84
16.	Arunachal Pradesh	9.17	31-1-85
17.	Chandigarh	32.50	1-4-85
18.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	11.59	1-4-85
19.	Goa, Daman & Diu	57.08	31-12-84
20.	Mizoram	22.61	28-2-85
21.	Pondicherry	41.92	27-3-85

Statement-III

Statement showing the amounts of Central assistance released to the States/U. Ts under the scheme of Strengthening of Employment Exchanges/UEIGB for Promotion of Self-Employment during 1983-85

S. No.	State	Amount in Rupees
1.	Assam	62,500
2.	Goa, Daman & Diu	57,700
3.	Gujarat	80,000
4.	Karnataka	54,592.84
5.	Kerala	60,000
6.	Madhya Pradesh	85,000
7.	Manipur	22,500
8.	Mizoram	16,488
9.	Nagaland	45,741
10.	Orissa	40,000
11.	Pondicherry	41,000
12.	Rajasthan	24,000
13.	Tamil Nadu	50,666.50
14.	Uttar Pradesh	73,000

"Green Revolution"

3931. SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether at present the "green revolution" remains confined to wheat and particularly in Punjab only;

(b) if so, whether Government have considered the desirability of introducing such revolution in regard to other crops, particularly pulses, oil-seeds and other items which are in great need and used by the poorer sections of the society all over the country;

(c) whether any blue print has been drawn up; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The 'Green Revolution' which made its appearance in India in mid and late sixties, has made an impact on the production of not only wheat but on all cereal crops all over the country, even though the maximum production increase has been registered by wheat, followed by rice. The production of wheat which was 10.39 million tonnes in 1965-66 has increased to 45.1 million tonnes in 1983-84. Similarly, the production of rice has increased from 30.59

million tonnes in 1965-66 to 59.8 million tonnes in 1983-84. The production of other cereals has also increased from 21.42 million tonnes to 34.0 million tonnes during the same period. Punjab has accounted for about 16% of the increase in foodgrain production since 'Green Revolution'.

(b) to (d). Pulses production, which was not keeping pace with the advancement of technology and break-through in production of cereals, received special attention during the Sixth Five Year Plan especially under the New 20-Point Programme. Efforts are being made to increase their production by adoption of improved technology, extension of irrigated area, inter-cropping/mixed cropping, bringing additional area and taking pulses in summer season as catch crop after harvest of rabi crops. As result, the production of pulses has increased from 8.6 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 12.6 million tonnes in 1983-84.

Similarly, high priority was accorded to oilseeds production during the Sixth Five Year Plan as well as under the New 20-point Programme. Concerted efforts are being made to increase the production of oilseeds through the implementation of the National Oilseeds Development Project so as to keep the imports to the minimum. The production of oilseeds has increased from 8.8 million tonnes in 1979-80 to a record level of 12.8 million tonnes in 1983-84.

Setting up of Consumer Protection Council

3932. SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are contemplating to set up a Consumer Protection Council to safeguard the interest of the consumers;

(b) if so, what would be the terms of reference of this council;

(c) whether it would be the apex body for the Centre and whether it will be supported by similar bodies in the States also;

(d) whether short supply and supply of bad quality stuff through Fair Price Shops would come under its purview; and

(e) when will it be set up ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (e). A 28-Member Consumer Protection Council had already been set up in August, 1983 with the objective of giving higher direction and purpose to the consumer protection movement in the country and to advise Government on matters having a bearing on the interest of the consumers and to suggest measures to be taken by different Ministries/Departments administratively concerned with laws dealing with various aspects of consumer protection. Government is considering to set up a Statutory Consumers' Protection Council to protect the interests of the consumers on matters such as quality, price, weight, etc., through emphasis on development of consumer's awareness and consumers' movement in the country. States will be advised to initiate similar actions for coordinating and strengthening the efforts of the Central Government.

Telecast of Cricket Match Held in Sharjah and Australia

3933. SHRI R.M. BHOYE :
SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK :

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Delhi Doordarshan could not show the cricket match in Australia as well as Sharjah when Indian team was playing against Pakistan team in one day International match; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). The final of the One-Day International Cricket Matches played between India and Pakistan at Australia was telecast live by Doordarshan on 10.3.1985.

Doordarshan does not generally provide live coverage of benefit matches. The cricket matches at Sharjah were organised for the benefit of well-known current and retired test cricketers. No live coverage was, therefore, provided by Doordarshan for these matches. However, keeping in view the demand from public, the recorded highlights of the cricket match between India and Pakistan were telecast by Doordarshan on 28.3.1985.

Import of Edible Oil

3934. SHRI AMARSINH RATHAWA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the details of the contracts covering the imports of edible oils during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85;

(b) the approximate requirement of edible oils for 1985-86, the quantity likely to be produced in the country and the quantity likely to be imported to meet the gap;

(c) the quantity of edible oils sold through Public Distribution System and its rate; and

(d) the quantity of edible oils sold to the vanaspati manufactures and the rate thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) The edible oils imported during the last three financial years are as under :

Financial Year	In lakh Mts.	Value Rs. crores
(i) 1982-83	9.80	417.98
(ii) 1983-84	14.09	845.62
(iii) 1984-85 (provisional)	15.55	1285.54

(b) to (d). To meet the requirement of edible oils for the year 1985-86 the requisite quantity of edible oils will be imported keeping in view the availability of indigenous edible oils in the country. During the financial years 1984-85 (provisional), 7.33 lakh MTs. of edible oils were supplied to Vanaspati Industry and 8.60 lakh MTs. were supplied for Public Distribution System. The current release prices of edible oils supplied to Vanaspati Industry are as under :

(i) Regular	Rs. 9,500/-	P.M.T, ex-STC tank.
(ii) Commercial	Rs, 13,000/-	P.M.T. ex-STC depot.

The current release prices of edible oils supplied for Public Distribution System are as under :

(i) Bulk (for all edible oils —	Rs. 8,030/-	P.M,T. ex-STC tank.
(ii) Tinned (for all edible oils) —	Rs. 9,500/-	P.M.T. ex-STC depot.

[*Translation*]

Increasing the Capacity of 1 KW T.V. Transmitter Centres in Hilly Areas

3935. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is proposed to increase the present capacity of newly opened 1 kilowatt T.V. transmission centres in hilly areas of the country;

(b) whether this fact has come to the notice of his Ministry that due to geographical obstacles benefits of these centres have been restricted to very limited areas; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures being taken to solve this problem ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) Replacement of some of the existing TV transmitters in the country, including those in hilly areas, by higher power transmitters is an approved scheme.

(b) and (c). The coverage of TV transmitters in hilly areas is at times limited due to intervening hills. Enhancing TV coverage in such areas involves the use of a large number of low power translators, provision of which would depend on the availability of resources for this purpose during the future Plan periods.

Schemes under RLEGP received from U.P.

3936. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the names of the districts in Uttar Pradesh in which schemes of construction works are proposed to be undertaken during 1985-86 under R.L.E.G.P. which have been received by his Ministry and the amount involved in each scheme; and

(b) the time by which necessary approval is likely to be accorded by his Ministry ?

THE MINISTER OF STALE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). The Government of Uttar Pradesh had submitted one project for construction of all-weather roads for villages in 49 districts of Uttar Pradesh during 1985-86 under the RLEGP involving an estimated cost of Rs. 13,590 lakhs. Out of this an amount of Rs. 7,590 lakhs is to be met out of RLEGP funds and the balance Rs. 6,000 lakhs by the State Government. The names of the districts alongwith the amount proposed to be spent in each district out of RLEGP funds is indicated in the attached statement. Approval has already been accorded to this project. In addition to this project work on other projects sanctioned for 1983-84 and 1984-85, which have not been completed, will also continue during 1985-86.

Statement

Statement showing districtwise cost of road works approved under RLEGP for implementation in Uttar Pradesh during 1985-86

Sl. No.	Name of Distirct	Estimated cost of road works in the district (Rs. in lakhs)
1	2	3
West Zone		
1.	Ghaziabad*	73.0
2.	Meerut	89.0
3.	Muzaffarnagar	94.0
4.	Bulandshahr	145,0
5.	Saharanpur	138.0
6.	Agra	146.0
7.	Aligarh	359.0
8.	Etah	226,0

1	2	3
9.	Mathura	122.0
10.	Mainpuri	167.0
11.	Bareilly	63.0
12.	Shajahanpur	98.0
13.	Pilibhit	100.0
14.	Budaun	141.0
15.	Moradabad	218.0
16.	Rampur	104.0
17.	Bijnor	110.0
	Total West Zone	2393.0
Central Zone		
18.	Lucknow	119.0
19.	Raebareli	128.0
20.	Sitapur	127.0
21.	Kheri	101.0
22.	Unnao	131.0
23.	Hardoi	180.0
24.	Kanpur (Rural)	126.0
25.	Kanpur (City)	37.0
26.	Allahabad	150.0
27.	Etawah	155.0
28.	Fatehpur	140.0
29.	Farukhabad	108.0
30,	Banda	137.0
31.	Jalaun	129.0
32.	Lalitpur	132.0
33.	Hamirpur	139.0
34.	Jhansi	140.0
	Total Central Zone	2179.0

1	2
Eastern Zone	
35. Varanasi	125.0
36. Jaunpur	151.0
37. Ballia	522.0
38. Ghazipur	272.0
39. Mirzapur	208.0
40. Faizabad	137.0
41. Bahraich	281.0
42. Gonda	188.0
43. Barabanki	207.0
44. Pratapgarh	107.0
45. Sultanpur	150.0
46. Gorakhpur	151.0
47. Ajamgarh	167.0
48. Basti	155.0
49. Deoria	197.0
Total Eastern Zone	3018.0
Grand Total	7590.0*

*Excludes Rs. 6000.0 lakhs to be contributed by the State Government.

[*English*]

Setting up of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Kumaun Region, U. P.

3937. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Krishi Vigyan Kendras are being set up in the rural areas of Kumaun region of Uttar Pradesh; and

(b) if so, whether the towns like Ranikhet Bagestiwar, Choukhutia, Champawat, Whaghat, Berinag and Pithoragarh in Kumaun region of Uttar Pradesh will be benefited by this scheme and details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Two proposals for establishment of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the Kumaun region at Sitarganj and at Haldwani in Nainital district of Uttar Pradesh have been received by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research from the G. B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar. If Government of India decides to establish additional Krishi Vigyan Kendras in the Seventh Five-Year Plan, these proposals also can be considered.

(b) So far, no proposal for the establishment of a Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Pithoragarh district has been received from any quarter. The Krishi Vigyan Kendra is a district level training institution only.

Survey of Rural Landless and Homeless Labourers in Orissa

3938. SHRI LAKSHMAN MALLICK : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether any survey of rural landless and homeless labourers has been conducted in Orissa under a centrally sponsored scheme;

(b) if so, the number of such persons that have been allotted plots and assisted to construct their own houses; and

(c) the financial assistance provided to Orissa by the centre for helping these homeless to construct their own houses ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) and (b). The information whether any survey of rural landless and homeless labourers has been conducted by the Government of Orissa under the Centrally sponsored scheme is not readily available. However, since the inception of the scheme in 1971 the State Government of Orissa allotted plots to 2,97,084 (upto 28th February, 1985) rural landless families and provided construction assistance to 27,235 such families.

(c) Housing, being a state subject, all the housing schemes are being implemented by the State Governments. The Union Government provides the financial assistance in the shape of block loans and block grants without being tied up any to any particular scheme.

NBCC employees sent abroad

3939. SHRI ANADI CHARAN DAS : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the total number of employees sent abroad on foreign projects, category-wise, by the National Building Construction Corporation during the last-three years;

(b) the number of SC and ST candidates among them; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to see that more and more people from weaker sections of society from remote areas are sent abroad on foreign projects, particularly the labour ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) and (b). A statement is annexed.

(c) Recruitment for lobour is carried out through different centres all over the country to provide adequate opportunities to people belonging to weaker sections of society from remote areas.

Statement

Statement showing number of regular employees (category-wise) posted to foreign projects by NBCC during 1982-85.

Sl. No.	Category	Employees posted on foreign projects		
		Total	SC	ST
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Chief Project Mgr.	2	—	—
2.	Asstt. Engineer (C)	51	3	—
3.	Jr. Engineer (E) and (M)	12	1	—

1	2	3	4	5
4.	Jr. Engineer (C)	53	14	—
5.	Office Asstt. II (G)	5	1	—
6.	Office Asstt. II (A)	37	3	1
7.	Office Asstt. III	9	3	1
8.	Office Asstt. I	6	3	1
9.	Foreman (E)	2	—	—
10.	Surveyor	11	2	—
11.	Project Manager (C)	7	—	—
12.	Resident Engr. (C)	17	1	—
13.	Store Keeper	16	3	—
14,	Asstt. Engr. (E and M)	22	—	—
15.	Asstt. Manager (F)	4	—	—
16.	Accounts Officer	8	2	—
17.	Jr. Steno	6	2	—
18.	Asstt. Accountant	20	2	—
19.	Doctor	7	—	—
20.	Dy. Project Mgr.	2	—	—
21.	Draftsman	1	—	—
22.	Sr. Draftsman	8	1	—
23.	Dr. Architect	1	—	—
24.	St. Steno	7	—	—
25.	Supdt. Account	5	—	—
26.	Pharmacist	3	—	—
27.	Administrative Officer	2	1	—
28.	Resident Engineer E and M	4	—	—
29.	Asstt. Mgr. (Admn.)	1	1	—
30.	Welder	1	—	—
31.	Foreman (M)	3	—	—
32.	Asstt. Pur. Officer	1	—	—
33.	Helper	1	—	—
34.	Asstt. Engr. (PH)	1	—	—
35.	Structural Engr.	1	—	—
36.	Manager (F)	1	—	—

1	2	3	4	5
37.	Project Manager E and M	1	—	—
38.	Purchase Officer	1	—	—
39.	Sr. Store Keeper	2	—	—
40.	Foreman (C)	4	1	—
41.	Purchase Asstt.	2	1	—
42.	Dy. Mgr. (F)	1	—	—
43.	Care Taker	1	—	—
44.	Office Supdt.	1	—	—
45.	Driver	2	—	—
46.	Daftry-cum-peon (sent as cook)	6	—	—
47.	Chowkidar (sent as helper)	1	—	—
48.	Arabic Translator	1	—	—
		361	45	3

Identification by ICAR Varieties of Rice and Wheat for Cultivation in Dry Lands

3940. SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK :
Dr. G. VIJAY RAMA RAO :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Research Institute of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research have during 1983-84 identified a number of varieties of rice and wheat suitable for cultivation in dryland areas or under unfavourable agro-ecological situations;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) whether Government are providing any seeds at subsidised rates or free of cost to the poor farmers ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

Five new varieties of wheat for cultivation under rainfed conditions in various wheat zones of the country were identified by the All India Wheat Research Workers Workshop during August, 1984. These varieties were developed by different Agricultural Universities/Institutes under the All India coordinated Wheat Improvement Project of the Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Similarly under All India Coordinated Rice Improvement Project rice varieties suitable for cultivation under uplands, Rainfed Lowlands and Saline/Alkali conditions were indentified.

(b) Details of the Wheat and Rice varieties identified are as follows :

Name of the variety	Area for which suited
Wheat	
PBW 65	Northern Plains Zone
K 8027	North Eastern Plains Zone
MACS 1967	Peninsular Zone
CPAN 1922 and VL-616	Northern Hills Zone

Rice	Condition of cultivation
IET 7254, IET 7633 IET 7988, IET 7564 IET 7566	Uplands
IET 7300, IET 6272 IET 7592, IET 7591	Rainfed Lowlands
IET 8117, IET 8719	Saline/Alkali conditions.

(c) Yes, Sir. Distribution is done through minikits which contain seeds of improved varieties. In addition, universities/institutes distribute small quantities of seeds of improved variety/s at the time of Kisan Melas, Field Days, etc.

Amount Sanctioned to Rajasthan under IRDP during 1985-86

3941. SHRI BANWARI LAL BAIRWA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

The amount likely to be sanctioned to Rajasthan under Integrated Rural Development Programme during 1985-86 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : As the Annual Plan for 1985-86 for Rajasthan has not yet been finalised by the Planning Commission, it is not possible to indicate the likely amount to be sanctioned for this State for 1985-86 under Integrated Rural Development Programme.

Production and Requirement of Milk

3942. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the details regarding the total requirement of milk in the country at present;

(b) the total quantity of milk produced in the country and the names of the States in which it is being produced in large quantity;

(c) whether the supply of milk is adequate to meet the requirements of milk in the country ; and

(d) if not, the steps Government propose to take in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) As per the National Commission on Agriculture Report (1976) the high and low levels of demand projections of milk for the year 1985 are 44.2 and 33.4 million tonnes respectively.

(b) The anticipated milk production in the country during 1984-85 is 38.4 million tonnes. The States in which large quantity of milk is produced are Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Gujrat, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Haryana and Bihar.

(c) and (d). Though the demand for milk has been largely met, it is not adequate to meet the nutritional requirement. The Government has taken a number of steps to increase the milk production in the country through Central, Centrally-sponsored and State Plan Schemes including Operation Flood Project. Such measures include improvement in the milk production potential of cattle and buffalo through cross-breeding of non-descript cattle with exotic dairy breeds and selective breeding of indigenous cattle and buffalo, provision of adequate health cover including control of infectious diseases, improving nutritional support through development of feed/fodder resources, and creation of assured milk marketing facilities.

Rice Production in Orissa

3943. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the production of rice in Orissa has been very low during last three years;

(b) whether the major causes are low fertiliser consumption, inadequate production credit and seed supply as well as the irrigation facilities not according to satisfaction;

(c) if so, what has been the supply of these inputs during the last three years in Orissa; and

(d) what steps Government propose to take to improve the supply of these input in that State ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The production of rice in the State has been low during 1981-82 and 1982-83 being 38.53 lakh tonnes and 29.92 lakh tonnes respectively, but it reached an all time record production of 50.48 lakh tonnes during 1983-84.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The information regarding distribution of certified seed, consumption of chemical fertilisers, development of irrigation facilities and provision of credit during the last 3 years is given in the statement attached.

(d) Apart from the on-going programmes of the State and the Central Government, a special programme for increasing rice production in Eastern States, including Orissa, is being taken up during the Seventh Five Year Plan, which *inter-alia* aims at improving the supply of inputs.

Statement

Supply of agriculture inputs in Orissa State

S. No.	Inputs	Unit	1981-82	1982-83	1983-84
1.	Distribution of certified Seeds	(Qtls.)	31,278	40,500*	51,223
2.	Total consumption of fertilisers (NPK)	(lakh tons)	0.82	0.86	1.03
3.	Distribution of credit	(Rs. in crores)	58.96	58.07	68.85
4.	Development of minor irrigation :				
	(i) Dug wells	(Nos.)	23,000	22,300	70,000
	(ii) Private Shallow tube-wells	(Nos.)	350	400	2,000
	(iii) Energisation of pumpsets	(Nos.)	2,930	3,780	790
	(iv) Public tubewells	(Nos.)	446	309	400
	(v) Additional Potential created ('000 ha)				
	(a) Surface water	('000 ha)	14	11	3.5
	(b) Ground water		32	12	60.00
	Total		46	23	63.50
5.	Additional potential created by major and medium irrigation scheme	(gross)	1032	1060	1093

*In addition, 1,00,453 Qtls. of labelled seed were also distributed.

Proposal to undertake soil Conservation measures

3944. SHRI SOMNATH RATH : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have a proposal, to undertake soil conservation measures in some inter-State river valley projects in the Seventh Plan;

(b) if so, the names of such inter-State river valley projects in Orissa where such soil conservation works are proposed to be taken up; and

(c) the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme of soil Conservation in the Catchments of River Valley Projects, soil conservation works have been proposed to be continued in the already approved and on-going inter-State catchments of Hirakud, Machkund and Rengali Mandira. Apart from these catchments, State Government of Orissa have submitted proposals for inclusion of four new catchments of Brahmani, Upper Kolab, Indravati and Subernarekha in the Seventh Plan. The proposals for continuation of the Centrally Sponsored programme both in the on-going and new catchments in the Seventh Plan are under consideration of the Planning Commission and the same have also to be approved by the Ministry of Finance. Therefore, the details of the programme in the Seventh Plan are yet to be finalised.

Telecast of Urdu Programme by Calcutta Doordarshan

3945. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the actual hours spent for Urdu programme in Calcutta Doodarshan during 1982-83, 1983-84 and 1984-85 respectively;

(b) whether Government would consider that some particular hour in the evening every week is fully devoted for Urdu programmes; and

(c) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a). The duration of Urdu programmes originated and telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Calcutta was 1 hour 11 minutes during 1982-83, 2 hours 3 minutes during 1983-84 and 1 hour 45 minutes during 1984-85. In addition, Doordarshan Kendra, Calcutta relayed all the Urdu programmes put out on the national network from Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi.

(b) and (c). Within the constraints of available production facilities and transmission hours, Doordarshan Kendra, Calcutta puts out programmes in various languages to cater for different linguistic groups of viewers in its coverage area It is, however, not possible to earmark any fixed duration and frequency for Urdu programmes in the telecasts of this Doordarshan Kendra.

Amount spent for Rural Development Programme during Sixth Plan

3946. SHRI PRIYA RANJAN DAS MUNSI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount spent in the Sixth Five Year Plan, upto January, 1985 for rural development programme;

(b) the funds received from Central Government and spent in West Bengal and Orissa; and

(c) the actual subsidy granted and spent for IHDP, NREP Programme in West Bengal upto January, 1985 ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) The Central Government released an amount of Rs. 2409.93 crores during the VIth Plan period upto January, 1985 for the major rural development programmes of

Integrated Rural development Programme, National Rural Employment Programme, Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, Drought Prone Areas Programme, and Desert Development Programme.

(b) Of the above programmes, Desert Development Programme is not being implemented in Orissa and West Bengal. The Central releases and utilisation of funds, including the matching share from the States upto January, 1985 for the remaining programmes are as under :—

(Rs. in lakhs)

States	Central release	utilisation
Orissa	13038.09	16881 45
West Bengal	12722.87	16984.05

(c) A major portion of the funds utilised under IRDP, amounting to Rs. 4232.06 lakhs was spent on subsidy. Under NREP, foodgrain are distributed to the workers at subsidized rates with effect from 16th January, 1984 and the cost of the subsidy is borne by the Central Government. An amount of Rs. 60.16 lakhs was given to the State Government as advance subsidy.

Sale of Mustard below Support Price

3947. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether mustard is selling in the market below support price fixed by Government;

(b) if so, reasons for the same;

(c) the reasons for STC not purchasing oil seeds or oil from the indigenous sources when the prices are below support price rather than importing the same from abroad; and

(d) the circumstances under which the same is imported ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) No. Sir, Wholesale prices of mustard of fair average quality in different markets of the country are generally ruling above the minimum support price of Rs. 385/- per quintal.

(b) and (c). Does not arise.

(d) There is a gap between the demand for and availability of indigenous edible oils which is met by imports.

[*Translation*]

Implementation of R.L.E.G.P.

3948. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of persons who got employment in each State under the RLEGP and the number of permanent assets created for the benefit of public thereby upto 31 March, 1985; and

(b) whether Government have reviewed this programme at any time and if so, the details thereof and name of the State in which it was reviewed and the result thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR): (a) The progress under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) is at present monitored in terms of the number of mandays of employment generated and not in terms of the number of persons given employment. The state-wise employment generated during 1983-84 and 1984-85 (as per information received upto February, 1985) is indicated in Annexure I and I-A respectively. The state-wise information regarding the projects approved under the RLEGP upto 31st March, 1985 is at Annexure-II. Laid on the Table of the House (Placed in the Library. See. No. (J 1090/85). These projects are in various stages of implementation.

(b) The review of the implementation of the RLEGP in all States/Union Territories is being conducted regularly by the Department as well as the Planning Commission. During these reviews particular attention is paid to monitoring of formulation of projects, sanction of projects, generation of employment and progress of expenditure. As a result of these reviews, the implementation of the RLEGP has improved significantly.

ANNEXURE-I

Statement indicating States/U.T wise position of employment generation under RLEGP-1983-84

(*Lakh Mandays*)

States/U.Ts.		Achievement
1		2
1.	Andhra Pradesh	—
2.	Assam	12.30
3.	Bihar	—
4.	Gujarat	1.61
5.	Haryana	Negligible
6.	Himachal Pradesh	—
7.	Jammu & Kashmir	—
8.	Karnataka	7.75
9.	Kerala	0.03
10.	Madhya Pradesh	8.43
11.	Maharashtra	—
12.	Manipur	—
13.	Meghalaya	—
14.	Nagaland	0.66
15.	Orissa	Nil
16.	Punjab	—
17.	Rajasthan	5.59
18.	Sikkim	0.23
19.	Tamil Nadu	2.69
20.	Tripura	1.85
21.	Uttar Pradesh	10.53
22.	West Bengal	—
Union Territories :		
23.	A & N Islands	Nil
24.	Arunachal Pradesh	Nii
25.	Chandigarh	

1	2
26. D & N Haveli	Nil
27. Delhi	—
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	—
29. Lakshadweep	—
30. Mizoram	Nil
31. Pondicherry	0.29
ALL INDIA	51.96

Annexure-IA

Statement indicating State-wise position of employment generation under RLEGP-1984-85. (Provisional)

(Lakh Mandays)

State/UT.	Target	Achievement	%Achievement	Period of reporting
1	2	3	4	5
1. Andhra Pradesh	231.11	164.40	71.1	Feb., 1985
2. Assam	63.38	24.48	38.6	-do-
3. Bihar	392.15	251.00	64.0	—
4. Gujarat	83.71	64.22	76.7	-do-
5. Haryana	15.35	6.89	44.9	-do-
6. Himachal Pradesh	17.03	12.47	73.2	-do-
7. Jammu & Krshmir	17.31	5.24	30.3	-do-
8. Karnataka	169.16	133.61	79.0	-do-
9. Kerala	107.92	22.62	21.0	-do-
10. Madhya Pradesh	243.76	201.35	82.6	-do-
11. Maharashtra	309.84	248.79	80.3	-do-
12. Manipur	2.55	0.65	25.5	-do-
13. Meghalaya	4.33	—	—	—
14. Nagaland	2.44	2.15	88.1	Feb., 1985
15. Orissa	175.80	31.55	18.0	-do-

1	2	3	4	5
16. Punjab	20.41	16.37	82.2	Feb., 1985
17. Rajasthan	62.22	55.05	88.5	-do-
18. Sikkim	2.04	0.32	15.7	-do-
19. Tamil Nadu	298.16	252.96	84.8	-do-
20. Tripura	9.67	0.61	6.3	Dec., 1984
21. Uttar Pradesh	456.34	410.00	89.9	Feb., 1985
22. West Bengal	301.02	37.04	12.3	-do-
Union Territories :				
23. A & N Islands	2.82	—	—	—
24. Arunachal Pradesh.	2.04	—	—	—
25. Chandigarh	0.39	0.27	69.2	Feb. 1985
26. D & N Haveli	1.67	—	—	—
27. Delhi	0.70	0.15	21.4	Feb. 1985
28. Goa, Daman & Diu	2.51	2.06	82.1	-do-
29. Lakshadweep	0.51	0.43	84.3	-do-
30. Mizoram	1.83	2.00	109.0	-do-
31. Pondicherry	1.83	1.43	78.1	-do-
All India :	3000.00	1948.11	64.9	

[*English*]

ICAR scientists sent abroad for Training

3949. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government are sending ICAR scientists working all over the country abroad for training and higher studies;

(b) if so, how may scientists were sent so far; (from 1980 to 1984), Statewise;

(c) the policy adopted for sending scientists abroad;

(d) whether none of the scientists working in Andhra Pradesh had been sent abroad during 1980 to 1984; and

(e) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICUTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The information is not being maintained State-wise. The year-wise figures, however, are :

Year	No. of ICAR Scientists deputed for training and higher studies
1980	47
1981	40
1982	75
1983	102
1984	81

(c) The ICAR keeps the following broad factors amongst others in view when sending scientists abroad for training :

i) the training should be need-based and of a practical kind as distinct from purely academic training;

ii) normally such training facilities should be sought as are not obtainable in India; and

iii) the person recommended for training should possess requisite qualifications and experience sufficient to enable him to benefit from his training abroad.

(d) Our Institute-wise list show that a number of scientists working in ICAR Institutes/Projects in Andhra Pradesh were deputed abroad during 1980 to 1984 for training/higher studies.

(e) Does not arise.

Improvement of Functioning of Labour Courts

3950. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to formulate a scheme for improvement in the working of labour courts and to direct the labour courts for deciding the cases speedily;

(b) if so, the time by which Government propose to take steps in this direction; and

(c) if not, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) to (c). In so far as Central Government is concerned, to improve disposal of pending disputes two Industrial Tribunal cum Labour Courts at Chandigarh and Kanpur have been set up. Monthly norms of disposal of disputes have been prescribed and the progress is monitored. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 has been amended in August, 1984 so as to provide time bound disposal of disputes. The Industrial Disputes (Central) Rules, 1957 have also been amended to provide time frame for different stages for disposal of disputes. It is for the State Governments and the Union Territories concerned to take necessary action in respect of Labour Courts and Tribunals set up by them.

[*Translation*]

Extension of Industrial Disputes Act to Educational Institutions

3951. SHRI JAGDISH AWASTHI : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) whether Industrial Disputes Act, 1947 also applies to educational institutions and universities;

(b) if so, the number of cases of educational institutions out of such cases pending in Labour Courts of Delhi indicating the details thereof; and

(c) since when these cases are pending in these courts ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) According to the judgements of the Kerala and Maharashtra High Courts, the provisions of the Industrial Disputes Act are applicable to the staff excluding the teaching staff.

(b) and (c). A Statement giving the details is attached.

Statement

Cases of the Educational Institutions Pending in the Labour Courts/Indusirial Tribunals : Delhi

No.	Case No.	Name of parties	Date of Institution	Stage
1	2		4	
1.	I.D. No. 211 of 1979	University of Delhi and Vinod Kumar	2.6.79	Evidence
2.	I.D. No. 158 of 1981	St. Xavier School and Dayal Mashih	12.6.81	Evidence
3.	I.D. No. 107/82	Nehru Homeopathy Medical College and Jai Parkash	31.3.82	Evidence
4.	I.D. No. 87/83	Maharishi Dhyan Vidyapeeth and Workmen	31.5.83	Evidence
5.	I.D. No. 141/84	Central Council for Research in Homeopathy and Alka Jain	26.7.84	Rejoinder
6.	I.D. No. 368/84	National Board of Examination A.I.I.M.S.	16.12.81	Evidence
7.	I.D. No. 443/79	Shree Ram Institute of Industrial Research and D.L. Sachdev	21.11.79	Evidence
8.	L.C.A. No. 682/83	C.P. Jain Vs. V.D.U.C. Ramjas Nursing School	26.11.83	Evidence
9.	L.C.A. No. 386/84	Ram Dutt Vs. Queen Marry School	11.4.84	Evidence
10.	L.C.A. No. 387/84	Nazir Hussain Vs. Queen Marry School	11.4.84	Evidence
11.	L.C.A. No. 388/84	Mool Chand Vs. Queen Marry School	11.4.84	Evidence
12.	L.C.A. No. 389/84	Jamil Khan Vs. Queen Marry School	11.4.84	Evidence
13.	L.C.A. No. 732/84	Shoba Ajwani Vs. United School Organisation	7.8.84	W.S.

1	2	3	4	5
14.	L.C.A. No. 764/84	Ram Chet Vs. Institute of History and Medical Research	17.8.84	W.S.
15.	L.C.A. No. 796/84	Jai Nandan Vs. Ahinsa Ayurvedic College	18.8.84	Evidence
16.	L.C.A. No. 826/84	P.S.S. Bhasin Vs. N.C.E.R.T.	25.8.84	Rejoinder
17.	L.C.A. No. 827/84	Narender Singh Vs. N.C.E.R.T.	25.8.84	Rejoinder
18.	L.C.A. No. 828/84	Sudesh Mohan Vs. N.C.E.R.T.	25.8.84	Rejoinder
19.	L.C.A. No. 907/84	Harish Vardha Vs. Indian Council of Medical Research	19.9.84	W.S.
20.	L.C.A No. 945/83	K.S. Durrani Vs. Indian Institute of Islamic Studies	26.12.83	Evidence
21.	L.C.A. No. 293/83	Sohan Lal Vs. Shree Ram Institute of Industrial Research	13.4.83	Evidence
22.	L.C.A. No. 187/83	Sohan Lal Vs. Shree Ram Institute of Industrial Research	8.3.83	Evidence
23.	L.C.A. No. 1305/84	Sohan Lal Vs. Shree Ram Institute of Industrial Research	5.2.84	Rejoinder
24.	L.C.A. No. 1319/84	Harminder Singh Vs. Guru Harkishan Public School	11.12.84	W.S.
25.	I.D. No. 1/67	The management of Ayurvedic Unani Tibbia College Vs. Workmen	1967	Evidence
26.	I.D. No. 94/79	The management of Bapu Adarsh Vidyalaya Vs. Workmen	1979	Evidence
27.	I.D. No. 160/81	The management of Guru Harikishan Public School Vs. Workmen	1981	Rejoinder

1	2	3	4	5
28.	I.D. No. 612/84	The management of Queen Marry School Vs. Workmen	1984	Rejoinder
29.	I D. No. 6/85	The management of Queen Marry School Vs. Workmen	1985	Claim
30.	I.D. No. 908/84	The management of Bapu Adarsh Vidyalaya Vs. Workmen	1984	Rejoinder
31.	I.D. No. 898/84	The management of Vice Chancellor University of Delhi Vs. Workman	1984	Rejoinder
32.	I.D. No. 789/84	The management of Lady Irwin School Vs. Workman	1984	Rejoinder
33.	I.D. No. 620/84	The management of New Green Field School Vs. Workmen	1984	Rejoinder
34.	I.D. No. 1028/84	The management of St. Xavier School Vs. Workmen	1984	Rejoinder
35.	I.D. No. 545/84	The management of DAV Hr. Sec. School Vs. Workmen	1984	Rejoinder
36.	I.D. No. 179/84	The management of Modern School Vs. Workman	1984	Rejoinder
37.	I.D. No. 180/84	The management of Modern School Vs. Workman	1984	Rejoinder
38.	I.D. No. 60/82	The management of Ram Lal Anand College Vs. Workman	1982	Arguments
39.	I.D. No. 25/83	M/s. Delhi University Vs. Sh. M.D. Tyagi	1983	Evidence
40.	I.D. No. 8/80	M/s. Happy High. Sec. School Vs. Smt. Veena Mehra	1980	Argument
41.	I.D. No. 140/83	New Era Public School Vs. Workman	1983	Evidence

1	2	3	4	5
42.	I.D. No. 328/82	M/s. Multan DAV School Vs. Workman	1982	Evidencc
43.	I.D. No. 98/83	M/s. Guru Arjun Dev Primary School Vs. Workman	1983	Evidence
44.	I.D. No. 4/83	M/s. Vidya Bhawan Model School Vs. Workman	1983	Evidence
45.	I.D. No. 195/80	M/s. Lady Irwin School Vs. Workman	1980	Argument
46.	I.D. No. 173/84	M/s. Frank Anothony Public School Vs. Workman	1984	Claim
47.	I.D. No. 205/82	M/s. Lila Wati Vidya Mandir Vs. Workman	1982	Evidence
48.	I.D. No. 322/84	M/s. Jamia Milia Islamaia Vs. Smt. M.R. Tabbsum	1984	Claim
49.	I.D. No. 228/79	M/s. Hundred Tibia College Vs. Workman	1979	Arguments
50.	I.D. No. 36/80	Ram Avtar Yadav Vs. I.P. College, Delhi	31.3.80	Evidence
51.	I.D. No. 252/81	Chander Ban Aggi Vs. Maitrey College	3.11.81	Evidence
52.	I.D. No. 436/81	Brij Lal Vs. Lady Irwin Hr. Sec. School	16.9.81	Evidence
53.	L.C.A. No. 190/81	Seema Jain Vs. Jain Kanya Pathshala Kailash Nagar, Delhi	17.9.81	Evidence
54.	L.C.A. No. 29/84	Amrit Lal Vs. Administrator Ayurvedic and Unani Tibbia College, New Delhi	4.4.84	Rejoinder
55.	I.D. No. 51/81	Sh. Shiv Poojan Vs. M/s. Lahore Montessori School	1981	Evidence
56.	I.D. No. 451/83	Dr. Manju Sagar Vs. M/s. Jawahar Lal Nehru University	1983	Evidence
57.	I.D. No. 592/83	Sh. Krishna Vs. M/s. Ramjas School	1983	Documents and Issues

1	2	3	4	5
58.	I.D. No. 230/84	H.G. Gupta Vs. M/s. Kalindi College	1984	Replication
59.	I.D. No. 133/84	K.S. Dureny Vs. M/s. Indian Instt. of Islamic Studies	1984	Evidence
60.	L.C.A. No. 184/82	Sh. Satish Chand Jain Vs. M/s. Jain Sanskrit Commercial School	1982	Evidence
61.	L.C.A. No. 450/83	Sh. R.K. Singhal Vs. M/s. University of Delhi	1983	Evidence
62.	L.C.A. No. 628/83	Sh. R.K. Singhal Vs. M/s. University of Delhi	1983	Evidence
63.	L.C.A. No. 79/83	Sh. Jagdish Vs. Sarvodaya Saraswati Sadan	1983	Notice for setting aside
64.	L.C.A. No. 787/83	Shri Hari Gopal Gupta Vs. Kalindi College	1983	Evidence
65.	L.C.A. No. 950/83	Shri Dharam Singh Vs. Guru Harkrishan Public school	1983	Evidence
66.	L.C.A. No. 176/81	Guru Nanak Public School Vs. Chand Ram	1981	Evidence
67.	L.C.A. No. 50/82	Taksila Public School Vs. Smt. Kiran Sudan	1982	Evidence
68.	L.C.A. No 239/81	Sunder Dass Vs. Govt. Boys Hr. Sec. School	1981	Argument
69.	L.C.A. No. 533/82	Smt. Ram Rekhi Vs. Ayurvedic Patshala	1982	Argument
70.	L.C.A. No. 154/81	Chand Parkash Vs. Salwan Hr. Sec. School, Dte. of Edn.	1981	Argument
71.	I.D. No. 63/81	Dinanath Vs. New Era Public Hr. Sec. School	1981	Argument
72.	L.C.A, No. 183/81	Ralla Ram Vs. Govt. Boys Hr. Sec. School	1981	Argument
73.	L.C.A. No. 491/82	Mahinder Singh Vs. Delhi College of Engineering	1982	Evidence
74.	L.C.A. No. 259/82	Bhagwati Parshad Vs. Multan DAV Hr. Sec. School	1982	Evidence

1	2	3	4	5
75.	L.C.A. No. 278/81	Sy. Bali Ram Vs. Ayurvedic Patshala	1981	Argument
76.	L.C.A. No. 7/82	Kirpala Vs. Happy Hours School	1982	Evidence
77.	I.D. No. 136/80	Bali Ram Vs. Ayurvedic Patshala	1980	Argument
78.	L.C.A. No. 120/83	G.S. Sharma Vs. Salwan Boys Hr. Sec. School	1983	Evidence
79.	L.C.A. No. 492/82	Delhi College of Engg. Vs. Workman	1982	Evidence
to	to			
98.	No. 511/82			
99.	L.C.A. No. 283/83	M/s. Holy Child Hr. Sec. School Vs. Sh. Awadh Narain Roy	1983	Documents
100.	I.D. No. 977/83	M/s. Happy Hr. Sec. School Vs. Workman	1983	Documents
101.	I.D. No. 537/83	M/s. Lahore Montessory School Vs. Workman	1983	Rejoinder
102.	I.D. No. 1127/83	M/s. St. Stephens College Vs. Workman	1983	Rejoinder
103.	I.D. No. 227/80	M/s. St. Frencis De-Sales School Vs. Workman	1980	Argument
104.	I.D. No. 437/83	M/s. Nav Shakti Hr. Sec. School Vs. Workman	1983	Rejoinder
105.	I.D. No. 899/83	M/s. Sri Guru Singh Sabha K. Gr. School Vs. Workman	1983	Rejoinder
106.	I.D. No. 1133/83	M/s. Ramjas Girls Hr. Sec. School, Vs. Workman	1983	Rejoinder
107.	I.D. No. 25/83	M/s. Tejvir Singh Vs. Kendriya Vidyalaya (Delhi)	1982	Evidence

Note : W.S. Stands for Written Statement

[*English*]

Drinking Water Scheme in Orissa with Collaboration of Denmark

3952. SHRI BRAJAMOHAN MOHANTY : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the drinking water scheme undertaken in Orissa with the collaboration of the Denmark Government has been finally agreed upon and if so, the progress of work;

(b) when the project will be completed and how many villages will be supplied drinking water through this project with details; and

(c) whether in hilly areas of Orissa any special efforts are being made for the supply of drinking water either with foreign collaboration or through Central Government scheme; if so, details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a). Final agreement has not yet been signed.

(b) The project will take five years for completion from the date of commencement of work. The project on completion is expected to provide drinking water to about 2010 identified problem villages in 20 blocks with an estimated population of 1.85 million.

(c) There is no specific scheme funded by any foreign agency or by the Centre for providing drinking water to hilly areas of Orissa. However, rural drinking water supply schemes throughout the State including the hilly regions are being implemented with funds under the State Mini Needs Programme and grants in aid received under the Centrally sponsored Accelerated Rural Water Supply Programme and the incentive scheme based on performance.

Utilisation of Sophisticated Tools and Devices for agricultural production

3953. SHRI KALI PRASAD PANDEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Indian Council of Agricultural Research proposes to lay emphasis on the utilisation of the latest sophisticated research tools and devices to achieve the overall goal of raising agricultural production and productivity; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The Indian Council of Agricultural Research is a promoter of the use of the latest and sophisticated research tools and devices so that its scientists are able to bring out results quickly and precision of research is not sacrificed for want of required instruments and devices. The ICAR research is directed towards increasing agricultural production and productivity.

(b) The ICAR provides to all its constituents and agricultural universities equipment grants for replacement of old outdated equipment and for acquiring new research equipment as dictated by their research mandate to the extent budget allocations permit. These include latest laboratory equipment, automatic rapid analysers, remote sensing and data loggers, data analysers, experimental plot machinery, special structures etc.

Foreign Aided Agricultural Projects under Implementation

3954. SHRIMATI JAYANTI PATNAIK : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the number of foreign aided agricultuaral projects under implementation in the country;

(b) whether any such foreign aided project is under implementation in Orissa;

(c) if so, the particulars of those projects; and

(d) the amount of foreign aid made available for each of those projects ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a). 135 foreign-aided agricultural projects are under implementation in the country.

(b) Yes, Sir. 20 such projects are under implementation in Orissa.

(c) and (d). A statement giving particulars of these projects and the amount of foreign aid made available for each of the project under implementation in the State of Orissa is attached.

Statement

	Name of the project	Funding Agency	Objectives	Name of States covered	Total Foreign Aid	Aid made available to Orissa.
	1	2	3	4	5	6
1.	National Seeds Project Phase-II	World Bank	To improve the quality of seed production particularly of foodgrains by setting up agencies for production of seeds and by strengthening infrastructure for storage, marketing and research in seed technology.	Orissa, Bihar, Karnataka, Rajasthan, and U.P.	US $ 16 million	State-wise allocation of external aid not made.
2.	National Dairy Project	I.D A.	To develop an integrated programme for increasing milk production and providing veterinary health services in villages.	All States and U.Ts.	US $ 150 million	State-wise allocation of external aid not made,
3.	Inland Fisheries Project	World Bank	To increase inland fish production for domestic consumption by providing infrastructure to the fish farmers.	Orissa, W. Bengal, Bihar, M.P. and U.P.	US $ 20 million	Rs. 524.30 lakhs
4.	Cashewnut Project	World Bank	To finance cashew production programme in the project area and strengthen cashew research.	Orissa, Andhra-Pradesh, Karnataka and Kerala.	US $ 22 million	Rs. 696.10 lakhs (Base cost)

	1	2	3	4	5	6
5.	National Cooperative Development Corpn. I	I.D.A.	To provide credit to co-operatives for increasing storage capacity at market centres and in rural areas for construction of godowns and for providing marketing facilities.	Orissa, Haryana and U.P.	Rs. 256.50 million	The foreign assistance is in the nature of a line of credit and there is no State-wise allocation of external aid.
6.	National Cooperative Development Corpn. III	I.D.A.	To provide credit to co-operatives for increasing storage capacity at market centres and in rural area for constructing godowns and for providing marketing facilities.	Orissa, Haryana, U,P., Andhra-Pradesh, Karnataka Maharashtra, Rajasthan and W. Bengal	US $ 220 million	The foreign assistance is in the nature of a line of credit and there is no State-wise allocation of external aid.
7.	National Agril. Extension Project-Orissa Sub-Project	I.D.A.	To reorganise and strengthen the agricultural extension and research system in the State.	Orissa, Madhya Pradesh and Rajasthan	US $ 39.10 million	Rs. 1160 lakhs (approx.)
8.	Interated Fisheries Project	U.K.	To improve coastal fishing in the neighbourhood of astrang by providing a fishing harbour and training local fishermen in the use of mechanised fishing boats.	Orissa	Rs. 64.20 million	Rs. 640 lakhs (approx.)
9.	Creation of irrigation facilities in Exotic Cattle Breeding Farm.	DANIDA	Creation of irrigation facilities in exotic Cattle Breeding Farm at Chiplima (Orissa).	Orissa and Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 2.50 million	Rs. 6.30 lakhs
10.	Integrated Agricultural Development Project	ITALY	Inputs availability including Machinery and trucks.	Orissa, M.P. and Haryana	Liras 18 billion (eqiuvalent to about US £ 13 million)	There is no State-wise allocation of external aid.

	1	2	3	4	5	6
11.	Intensification of Fresh-water Fish Culture and Training	UNDP	Establishment of fresh-water Agriculture Research and training Centre, renovation of flood damaged ponds and research demonstration programems in fish nutrition, etc.	Orissa	US $ 0.66 million	Rs. 66 lakhs (approx.)
12.	International Development Research Centre on Minor Millets.	IDRC	Research on Minor Millets	Orissa	Rs. 9.37 lakhs	Rs. 9.37 lakhs
13.	Nitrogen Fertiliser Efficiency	U.S.	Research on efficiency of nitrogenous fertilisers.	Orissa	Rs. 6.44 lakhs	Rs. 6.44 lakhs
14.	Biological nitrogen fixation by BGA (Cyanovacteria) and Azolla.	U.S.	Research in biological nitrogen fixation.	Orissa	Rs. 2.01 lakhs	Rs. 2.01 lakhs
15.	Post Harvest Technology	IDRC	Research in Post Harvest Technology.	Orissa	Rs. 2.80 lakhs	Rs. 2.80 lakhs
16.	National Agricultural Research Project	IDA	Specific research by the State Agril. Universities.	Orissa University alongwith other Universities.	US $ 54 million	Rs. 346.91 lakhs
17.	Fate and efficiency of Urea based fertiliser.	PL-480	Research	Orissa	Rs. 13.72 lakhs	Rs. 13.72 lakhs
18.	Fate and efficiency of Urea based fertiliser	PL-480	Research	Orissa	Rs. 2.07 lakhs	Rs. 2.07 lakhs

	1	2	3	4	5	6
19.	Evaluation and Utilisation of Induced Mutants of Rice against Blast Bacterial Leaf Blight and Tungro.	International Atomic Energy Agency.	Research	Orissa	The allocation for the project during the year 1984-85 is Rs. 60,000.	
20.	Research and Development in rice centred agricultural systems.	Ford Foundation	Research	Orissa	US $ 230,000	Rs. 23 lakhs (approx.)

Break-Through in Wheat Production

3955. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether any second break-through in wheat is coming up;

(b) whether wheat seeds are now old enough and some varieties have caught diseases and others have a diminishing return tendency; and

(c) if so, whether Government propose to give a new thrust to wheat production ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The production of wheat has been increasing year after year. During the Sixth Plan period, record production of wheat has been achieved every year. The level of production increased from 31.83 million tonnes in 1979-80 to 45.15 million tonnes in 1983-84. The production target of 45.60 million tonnes fixed for 1984-85 is also expected to be achieved.

(b) New varieties of wheat are constantly being evolved to replace the older ones and to facilitate varietal diversification. These are being tested under the Central Sector Scheme of Minikit Programme, before taking up their cultivation over larger areas.

(c) Efforts are being made to push up production of wheat further. A production target of 58.0 million tonnes of wheat has been proposed for the 7th Five Year Plan.

Proposal to Improve Production of Pulses and Oil Seeds.

3956. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether efforts are being made to improve the production of pulses and oil seeds in the country;

(b) the import cost of these two items in the country; and

(c) steps proposed to be taken to find out the area of the land under actual cultivation ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The import cost of these two items is :

	1981-82	1982-83 (upto December. 82)
		(Value Rs. 1 in lakhs)
Pulses	4433.56	2199.26
Oil—seeds	444.99	63.38

(c) About 88% of the gross cropped area of pulses and oilseeds is assessed by the primary village level agency making field enumeration. In the States where such agency does not exist the area estimates are built up on sample surveys or ad-hoc surveys/estimates.

Introduction of Soil Testing Laboratories in Village Schools

3957. SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased state :

(a) whether to improve upon the general knowledge of farmers about soil, plants and animals Government contemplate to introduce soil testing laboratories in village high schools thereby giving the students a better idea about plants and cattle and their place in village economy; and

(b) if the answer be in affirmative, what is the Government's proposal ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). There is no proposal to introduce soil testing laboratories in village high schools. However, at present there are about 419 soil testing laboratories in the country to advise the farmers on the efficient balanced use of fertilisers on the basis of soil test results.

Complaint cell in Ministry of Works and Housing

3958. SHRI NARASINGRAO SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any cell or Department or Division in his Ministry, particularly for Directorate of Estates, for attending to the complaints of visitors regarding misbehaviour ill treatment, indifferent attitude etc. of staff on duty during the visiting hours; and

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) and (b). There is no Cell or Division in the Ministry proper exclusively for attending to the complaints of visitors regarding misbehaviour, ill treatment, indifferent attitude of staff on duty during the visiting hours. However, in the Directorate of Estates the visitors are normally received and attended to by the concerned Allotment and Rent Sections. Visitors are also free to approach senior officers for redressal of their grievences, if any.

Change of Government Quarters on Medical Ground

3959. SHRI NARASINGRAO SURYAWANSHI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Government employees who had applied for the change of quarter/floor/area alongwith all the relevant papers on medical ground, specifically chronic diseases like heart trouble, cancer, T.B. etc in January, 1985 have not been provided with the change so far; and

(b) if so, the reasons for delay ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Their turn in the Ad-hoc change waiting list has not yet been covered.

Supply of Newsprint to the Daily Newspapers

3960. SHRI M.V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted by Government to supply the newsprint to the recognised and unrecognised newspapers in the country;

(b) the daily newspapers, recognised or unrecognised, published from Maharashtra and getting newsprint from Government;

(c) whether Government have any control to check the misuse of quota of newsprint allotted by Government from time to time; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Newsprint is allotted in terms of Newsprint Allocation Policy of the Government announced by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting annualy to newspapers and periodicals which are registered with the registrar of Newspapers for India. Newspapers not registered with Registrar of Newspapers of India are not given any newsprint.

(b) Statement-I containing a list of daily newspapers from Maharashtra, which were allotted newsprint during 1984-85, is attached.

(c) and (d). Yes, Sir. The newsprint is an 'essential commodity' under the purview of Essential Commodities Act, 1955 which provides, *inter alia* for penal action including imprisonment against persons who violate the provisions of the Newsprint Control Order, 1962 regulating the acquisition, sale and consumption of newsprint.

The Registrar of Newspapers for India also takes various administrative measures to reduce spurious demand for newsprint. The main measures adopted are listed in the attached statement-II

Statement-I

S. No.	Name of the newspaper
1	2
1.	Mid Day
2.	Nagpur Times

1	2
3.	Vishwa Mitra
4.	Navbharat
5.	Sahyadri
6.	Kesari
7.	Kesari
8,	Pudhari
9.	Lokmat
10.	Lokmat
11.	Navakal
12.	Sandhyakal
13.	Tarun Bharat
14.	Marathavada
15.	Nagpur Patrika
16.	Tarun Bharat
17.	Janmabhoomi
18.	Janmabhoomi
19.	Bombay Samachar
20.	Inquilab
21.	Hindustan
22.	Yugadharma
23.	Dainik Gavakari
24.	Dainik Gavakari
25.	Dainik Gavakari
26.	Free Press Journal
27.	Nav Shakti
28.	Free Press Bulleton
29.	Indian Express
30.	Lok Satta
31.	Financial Express
32.	Samkaleen
33.	The Daily
34.	Times of India
35.	Navbharat Times
36.	Economic Times
37.	Evening News of India
38.	Maharashtra Times
39.	Hitawada
40.	Dainik Lokmat
41.	Mumbai Sakal
42.	Sakal
43.	Sakal
44.	Janashakti
45.	Aaj ka Anand
46.	Agradoot
47.	Nagar News
48.	Punezilla Sanj Samacha
49.	Champavatee Patra
50.	Satyawadi
51.	Bhramar
52.	Aikya
53.	Maharashtra
54.	Deshdoot
55.	Prabhat
56.	Azadi
57.	Dainik Rashtra Tej
58.	Sarwamat
59.	Matantar
60.	Rambhoomi
61.	Matribhumi
62.	Marathiya Murasu
63.	Hindusthan
64.	Mahasagar
65.	Maharashtra Herald
66.	Yeshwant
67.	Ajintha
68.	Ratnabhoomi
69.	Lok Vijay
70.	Sandhya
71.	Lok Yug
72.	Samaj

1	2
73.	Sanj Tarun Bharat
74.	Vishwa Samachar
75.	Nirbhay Pathik
76.	Shiva Shakti
77.	Aurangabad Times
78.	Indrapur Samachar
79.	Sour Chakra
80.	Nagar Times
81.	Nav Prabhat
82.	Sholpur Samachar
83.	Samta Darpan
84.	Urdu Times
85.	Praja Vani
86.	Ratngiri Times
87.	Nagpur Post
88.	Zunzar Neta
89.	Nav Sandesh
90.	Shramik Ek Joot
91.	Godateer Samachar
92.	Sanchar
93.	Sagar
94.	Jam-E-Jamshed
95.	Deshonnati
96.	Nagarvasi Daily
97.	Barsi Samachar
98.	Sadanand
99.	Shiv Shambho
100.	Mahaviderbha
101.	Bhagwant Samachar
102.	Apla Maharashtra
103.	Day View
104.	Warta
105.	Batmidar
106.	Satya Prabha
107.	Raghunandan
[illegible]	Dhamaka

Statement-II

1. The newsprint allotted to a newspaper periodical is postaudited in the next year with the supporting consumption certificate given by Chartered Accountant. In case there is any short consumption, the same is deducted from the entitlement of the newspaper for the following year.

2. Circulation of newspapers receiving newsprint is checked generally in every three years. In case the circulation is assessed lower, the newsprint is recovered from the paper's entitlement in the following years.

3. Whenever a paper's circulation is declared unestablished, the allocation made, if any, is recovered from the entitlement after its circulation is re-established.

4. Whenever there is any doubt of any newspaper about the genuineness of the publication, a spot-check of circulation is carried out and allocation of newsprint is made on the basis of the circulation so verified.

Extension of Public Distribution System to Backward Districts

3961. SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to expand the Public Distribution System for foodgrains to cover Taluka/Towns/industrial units located in Backward districts during the Seventh Plan period;

(b) whether any steps have been taken in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of the expansion scheme envisaged by Government ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (c). A well-knit scheme of Public Distribution System is already in operation throughout the country for foodgrains and other essential commodities covering Taluka towns/industrial units located in the backward districts. The State Governments/Union Territory Administrations have been advised to cover the entire population in their respective areas under the Public Distribution System by opening fair price shops including mobile shops for far-flung areas and for industrial workers. In this connection, they have also been advised to pay special attention to the rural, tribal, hilly and backward areas. For this purpose, a norm of one fair price shop for every 2000 persons has been suggested. In the case of sparsely populated and far-flung areas, they have been advised to relax this norm. The total number of fair price shops in the country has increased from 2.97 lakhs on 1.10.83 to 3.11 lakhs as on 1.10.84.

Scheme for Contribution by Industry for Development of Agriculture

3962. SHRI BALA SAHEB VIKHE PATIL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether as reported in the "Financial Express" dated 23 March, 1985, he had urged the industry to contribute a part of its surplus for the development of agricultural infrastructure in the country;

(b) whether he has followed up his appeal by formulating definite scheme identifying the areas where the industry's participation can be helpful;

(c) when this is going to be done; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). Certain illustrative areas where industry's participation could be helpful were indicated in the speech at the Workshop on "Improvement of Agricultural Income" organised by the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI). Industrialists were urged to suggest concrete proposals in this regard. No such proposal has been received so far.

Central Government Offices in Rented Buildings in Bangalore

3963. SHRI V.S. KRISHNA IYER : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) how many Central Government establishments are housed in rented buildings in Bangalore city;

(b) the amount of rent paid by Government every month for these offices; and

(c) whether there is any proposal before Government to construct multi-storeyed buildings in Bangalore to house all the Central Government establishments which are in rented buildings ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Thirty three.

(b) Rs. 4.39 lakhs per month.

(c) Yes, Sir. A proposal to construct multi-storyed building in Bangalore is under consideration of the Government.

Procurement and Supply of Vanaspati Ghee by the States

3964. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 162 on 25.3.85 regarding shortage of Vanaspati in the country and state :

(a) whether the decision of Central Government regarding procurement of 30 per cent of Vanaspati Ghee produced by Vanaspati units within the respective jurisdiction of the States and Union Territories for distribution through Public Distribution System was intimated to the State Governments and Union Territories Administration;

(b) if so, when;

(c) whether Central Government have inquired into the reasons for not availing of the concession by any of the States and Union Territories; and

(d) if so, with what results ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) 14th March, 1984.

(c) and (d). Central Government has not inquired into the reasons for not availing the facility by any State Government/Union Territory.

Revision of Minimum Wages of Agricultural Labour

3965. SHRI D.B. PATIL : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to refer to reply given to Starred Question No. 166 on 25 March, 1985 regarding revision of minimum wages of agricultural labour and state :

(a) whether the minimum wages fixed by Government of Maharashtra for agricultural labourers are lowest in the country;

(b) whether Central Government have advised the Government of Maharashtra to revise the minimum wages to the national average of minimum wages of agricultural labourers; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) The Government of Maharashtra revised the minimum rates of wages in the employment in agriculture vide their Notification of the 31st January, 1983. The minimum rates of wages are Rs. 6, Rs. 7 Rs. 8 and Rs. 10 for the four zones. It would not be correct to say that the minimum rates of wages fixed by the State Government are the lowest in the country as some of the other State Government have fixed minimum rates of wages for agricultural workers, which are lower than Rs. 10/- and in some cases even lower than Rs. 8/-.

(b) It is difficult to work out a national average of minimum wages for agricultural workers. Wages in agriculture are being fixed by various State Governments/Union Territories Administrations under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 taking into account a number of factors. However, the Central Government has been emphasising on all the State Governments including the State Government of Maharashtra to follow the recommendations of the 31st Session of the State Labour Ministers' Conference held in July, 1980, to review and revise, if necessary, minium wages at least once in 2 years or on a rise of 50 points in the Consumer Price Index Number whichever is earlier.

(c) Does not arise.

News-Item Captioned "Calicut Mills Reject 'Toxic' FCI Wheat"

3966. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL Supplies be pleased to refer to the news item "Calicut Mills Reject 'Toxic' FCI Wheat" appearing in Indian Express dated 6 April, 1985 and state :

(a) whether Government have enquired into the allegations that wheat supplied by the Calicut FCI depot was toxic and/or unfit for human consumption;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what are the findings; and

(d) the steps taken or proposed to be taken ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). The allegations were not found to be correct. The wheat stoeks were found to be well within the prescribed specifications, and also free from any toxicity.

(d) The prescribed steps to ensure the quality of wheat issued to the mill will continue to be taken, and the request of the millers for issue of both white and red wheat would be considered to the extent feasible.

Unemployment among Rural Population

3967. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO : Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state :

(a) the percentage of rural umployed to the total rural population for the year 1982-83;

(b) the number and percentage of rural

under-employed to the total rural population for the year 1982-83;

(c) whether Government have any proposal to provide production oriented employment to the rural under-employed and unemployed; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR (SHRI T. ANJIAH) : (a) and (b). Information on such aspects has been collected by the National Sample Survey Organisation in their 38th Survey Round conducted in 1983. The results of that Survey are under tabulation.

(c) and (d). The main programmes in operation amied at employment generation for the rural under-employed and unemployed are the Integrated Rural Develpoment Programme (IRDP), the National Rural Employment Programme (NREP), the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme (RLEGP) and the Scheme for Training of Rural Youth for Self Employment (TRYSEM). Their objectives are as under :

(i) IRDP—This programme has the objective of providing assistance in the form of productive assets to the families below the poverty line, so as to bring them above the poverty line.

(ii) NREP—This programme aims at providing supplementary employment opportunities to the work-seekers, particularly during the lean agricultural seasons.

(iii) RLEGP—This programme aims at improving and expanding employment opprtunities for the rural landlees with a view to providing guarantee of employment to atleast one member of every rural household upto hundred days in a year.

(iv) TRYSEM—Under this scheme, suitable skills are imparted to the rural youth to take up self employment.

Information about the targets and achievements under these programmes is shown below :

(Figures in lakhs)

Programme	Unit	1982-83		1983-84		1984-85	
		Target	Achievements.	Target	Achievements.	Target	Achievements.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
IRDP	Families	30.07	34.55	30.54	36.85	30.27	30.95*
TRYSEM	No. of Youth Trained.	2.00	2.46	2.00	2.06	2.00	1.43**
NREP	Mandays	35.32	3512	3222	3028	3091	2850*
RLEGP	Mandays	—	—	—	—	3000	1924*

*Upto February, 1985

**Upto October, 1984

Meeting of Advisory Council on Public Distribution System

3968. SHRI RAM SAMUJHAWAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether a meeting of the Advisory Council on the Public Distribution System was held in New Delhi on 29 March, 1985;

(b) if so, the specific problems connected with Public Distribution System (PDS) discussed at the above meeting; and

(c) the further steps, if any being taken to streamline the working of this system in the various States particularly in the rural and backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Sixth meeting of the Advisory Council on Public Distribution System was held in New Delhi on 29 March, 1985.

(b) and (c). At this meeting various issues connected with the efficient functioning of the public distribution system were discussed. They included opening of new fair price shops, commodity coverage, formation of advisory/vigilance committees, strengthening of infrastructure for the PDS, stremlining the PDS in States/Union Territories, steps for eliminating shortage of essential commodities, seeting up of grievances cells at State/District level etc. It was reiterated that States should strengthen the PDS at grass root level and for this purpose develop a monitoring system to ensure timely availability of essential commodities through the fair price shops. It wes emphasised that consumers in rural, hilly, backward and taribal areas should not experience any difficulty in getting essential commodities from the fair price shops.

Upgradation of TV Transmission Station at Mysore

3969. SHRI SRIKANTA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government propose to upgrade TV transmission Station at Mysore to enable neighbouring districts of Mandya Madikeri, Hassan and other distant parts of Mysore District to receive T. V. signals; and

(b) if so, the likely date by which the work will be carried out ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). There is no approved scheme, as yet to upgrade the existing TV transmitter at Mysore.

TV Transmission Station in Chamundi Hills in Mysore

3970. SHRI SRIKANTHA DATTA NARASIMHARAJA WADIYAR : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government had proposed to erect the T. V. transmitter station in Mysore on Chamundi Hills and subsequently changed the venue; and

(b) if so, the reasons thereof ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) and (b). The site initially identified for installation of a Low Power Transmitter at Mysore was in private premises at Chamundi Hills. This did not become available in time for completion of the project. The transmitter was, therefore, installed at the site readily available in the AIR complex.

Drought in Orissa

3971. SHRI K PRADHANI : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the amount allocated to Orissa for implementing Drought Prone Area Programme in 1985-86;

(b) the different areas included under DPAP in Orissa:

(c) whether Government are aware that many more areas in Orissa are affected by drought this year:

(d) if so, whether Government propose to provide additional allocation to Orissa to mitigate hardship caused due to drought conditions; and

(e) if so, the details of additional grant proposed to be provided to Orissa for the above purpose ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) A total allocation of Rs. 4.68 crores (including State share) has been made for Orissa for 1985-86 for implementing the Drought Prone Areas Programme.

(b) 39 blocks in 4 districts of the State are covered by the Drought Prone Areas Programme. The names of toe districts and blocks are as under :

S. So.	District	Blocks
1.	Phulbani	Harbhanga, Balliguda, Chakapad, Daringibadi, G. Udayagiri, Kantamal, Khajuripada, Kotagarh, Nuagaon, Phiringia, Phulbani, Raikia, Tikaballi, Tumudibandh.
2.	Kalahandi	Kesinga, Narla, M. Rampur, Thunamul Rampur, Lanjigarh, Golamunda, Sinapali, Khariar, Komna, Boden, Nawapara.
3.	Bolangir	Patnagarh, Belpara, Khaprakhol, Titilagarh, Tureikella, Bangamunda, Muribahal, Saintala.
4.	Sambalpur	Padampur, Paikmal, Bijepur, Sohella, Gaisilet, Jharabandha.

(c) Yes, Sir. All the 13 districts in the State were reported to have been affected by drought during 1984-85.

(d) and (e). Basing on the recommendations of the High Level Committee on Relief, Central assistance of Rs. 8.95 crores (including Rs. 6.00 crores for 1985-86) has been sanctioned to the State for drought relief during the year 1984-85.

Impact of Budget on price of foodgrains and Pulses

3972. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state ;

(a) whether divergent trends were witnessed in the grains and pulses markets in the country after the presentation of the 1985-86 Budget by Government of India;

(b) if so, the details thereof ?

(c) the present position and the trend of prices in the grains and pulses markets; and

(d) to what extent the price in the grains and pulses market have increased/fallen after the presentation of the Budget and what are the reasons for such increase/fall in the prices ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) to (d). It is a fact that there has been a divergent trend in the wholesale price indices of cereals and pulses in the two weeks after the presentation of 1985-86 Budget by Government of India. The wholesale price index numbers of cereals and pulses for the three weeks ending 30.3.1985 are indicated in the attached statement alongwith percentage variation in the post-Budget period. The variation in the prices of cereals and pulses during the period under reference may be mainly attributed to the seasonality factor.

Statement

Wholesale Price Index of Cereals and pulses.

(1970-71—100)

	Week-ending			*percentage variation*
	16.3.85	*23.3.85*	*30.385*	*(30.3.85)/(16.3.85)*
1	2	3	4	5
Cereals	**242.8**	**243.3**	**245.0**	**+0.9**
Rice	266.5	267.3	270.1	+1.4
Wheat	211.6	212.5	213.4	+0.4

1	2	3	4	5
Jowar	231.3	232.5	234.0	+1.2
Bajra	221.3	222.6	224.5	+1.4
Barley	290.7	296.7	284.9	—2.0
Maize	225.8	223.7	223.7	—0.9
Ragi	240.0	235.8	242.2	+0.9
Pulses	**437.2**	**436.4**	**430.0**	**—1.6**
Gram	521.6	521.0	502.1	—3.7
Arhar	280.9	281.6	288.0	+2.5
Moong	497.5	491.3	497.1	—0.5
Massor	350.7	358.5	358.5	+2.2
Urad	400.1	394.6	401.5	+0.3

Unauthorised alterations made by DDA Flat owners

3973. SHRI DHARAMVIR SINGH TYAGI: Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether unauthorised alterations are being made by many DDA flats owners in several colonies causing obstruction of sun and light to other flats; and

(b) the steps Government propose to take to demolish such unauthorised alterations ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir, such instances have come to the notice of DDA.

(b) As and when the unauthorised alterations come into the notice of the DDA, show cause notices are issued to the allottees for the demolition of the construction and if they fail to do so allotment is cancelled. DDA has also decided recently to prosecute the defaulters under Section 29 (ii) of the DD Act.

Jha Committee Report

3974. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2110 on 8 April, 1985 regarding findings of the Jha Committee Report and state :

(a) whether 28000 Metric Tonnes of skimmed milk powder was imported during 1984-85, country from which imported, quantity received, date of its receipt and correspondingly quantity of indigenous skimmed milk powder purchased for distribution by Indian Dairy Corporation/National Dairy Board and quantity remaining in stock on 1 April, 1985 vis-a-vis quantity State-wise. issued during 1984-85; and

(b) quantity of skimmed milk powder anticipated to be received in India during 1985-86 and 1986-87, year-wise, source and proposed utilization plan ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) (a). A total quantity of

59,539 Metric Tonnes of gift skimmed milk powder (SMP) was imported during the year 1984-85 (upto February, 1985). The monthwise receipt of imported SMP together with the source from where imported and the indigenous SMP purchased during the corresponding period by the Indian Dariy Corporation (IDC) is furnished at statement-I Since the accounts of the IDC for the year 1984-85 have not yet been finalised, it will not be possible to furnish stock position of pooled SMP as on 1 April, 1985. However, the stock position of SMP as on 1.3.85 was 19,298 metric tonnes (provisional). The Statewise issue of SMP by the IDC during 1984-85 is furnished at statement-II.

(b). Allocation of gift commodities under food aid programme is approved by the European Economic Community (EEC) on annual basis. So far no commitment has been received from EEC for the year 1985 as also for the year 1986. The IDC pooled stocks comprising imported gift commodities and indigenously procured supplies will be utilised by the dairy plants,

Statement-I

Statement showing the month and source of gift supplies of skimmed milk powder and indigenously purchased skimmed milk powder during 1984-85 (Up to February 1985)

(Provisional)

(Figures in M.T. Rounded)

Sl. No.	Month	Source of rcceipt of gift supplies		Indigenous purchase
		E.E.C.	CLUSA	
1.	April, 1984	2,000	—	—
2.	May, 1984	4,000	7,154	200
3.	June, 1984	15,305	2.696	1,347
4.	July, 1984	—	111	751
5.	August, 1984	3,511	—	—
6.	September, 1984	2,031	2,003	30
7.	October, 1984	508	970	—
8.	November, 1984	—	4,747	30
9.	December, 1984	—	1,892	63
10.	January. 1985	7,000	267	—
11.	February, 1985	5,344	—	472
	Total :	39,699	19,840	2,893

E.E.C. = European Economic Community

CLUSA = Cooperative League of USA.

Statement-II

Statement showing statewise issue of skimmed Milk Powder from pooled stocks during the year 1984-85 (Upto February 1985)

(*Provisional*)

(*Figures in M.T. Rounded*)

S.No.	Name of the State/U.T.	Quantity
1.	Assam	56
2.	Andhra Pradesh	1875
3.	Bihar	397
4.	Delhi	16070
5.	Gujarat	1860
6.	Haryana	162
7.	Himachal Pradesh	58
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	88
9.	Kerala	165
10.	Karnataka	1050
11.	Madhya Pradesh	858
12.	Maharashtra	1853
13.	Orissa	135
14.	Punjab	444
15.	Pondicherry	50
16.	Rajasthan	242
17.	Sikkim	26
18.	Tripura	60
19.	Tamil Nadu	5037
20,	Uttar Pradesh	211
21.	West Bengal	10825
22.	Lakshadweep	3
23.	Goa	90
	Total :	41615

Financial assistance to farmers for adopting modern agriculture practices

3975. SHRI MOHAN BHAI PATEL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether most of the farmers in the country are small and marginal farmers and they are interested to adopt modern agricultural practices, but their resources are limited;

(b) if so, steps being taken to provide them financial assistance through nationalised banks and cooperative banks;

(c) whether any instructions have been issued to the banks in this regard; if so, the details of the instructions issued; and

(d) whether Government are considering to announce some comprehensive schemes for providing financial assistance to small and marginal farmers to enable them to increase the agricultural products ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). Commercial Banks are advised to advance at least 25% of the priority sector advance or 10% of total bank-credit to small farmers marginal farmers and other weaker sections. About 95% of the advances of Regional Rural Banks go to them. Coorperatives are instructed to advance at least 20% of their advances to small and marginal farmers. Fresh credit will be availabls to small and marginal farmers even if they have default upto 10% of the earlier loan. Lower rate of interest, redution in down payment, longer period for repayment, low rate of share linking are the other concessions given to small and marginal farmers by the cooperatives.

(d) There is already a Centrally Sponsored Scheme for providing financial assistance to small and marginal farmers for increasing agricultural production.

Plan to modernise bullock carts

3976. SHRI RADHAKANTA DIGAL : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have any plans to modernise age-old bullock carts in the country;

(b) whether Government consider it necessary to bring the improvised bullock carts on to the roads of rural India, so as to bring transformation in transport system in the rural areas; and

(c) whether Government propose to extend loan facilities to the farmers for acquiring improvised bullock carts ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir. The Government in the Ministry of Shipping and Transport has been finding research and improved bullock design through:

(i) Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore.

(ii) Central Road Research Institute (C.R.R.I), Research Institute under the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. In addition the Indian Council of Agricultural Research is also engaged in some research through All-India Coordinated Project and through the Central Institute of Agricultural Engineering, Bhopal.

(b) Yes, Sir. Improved bullock carts manufactured by Public and Private Organisations are available in the country.

(c) Yes, Sir. Commercial and cooperative banks provide loans to farmers for purchase of bullock carts.

Coconut production in Kerala

3977. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether there has been increase in coconut production during 1984-85 as compared to 1983-84 and the percentage thereof; and

(b) the percentage of national demand for coconut being met by Kerala ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) and (b). Final estimate of coconut production for crop year 1984-85 has not yet become due from the States. During 1983-84, production in Kerala accounted for about 46% of the total production of coconuts in the country. The details are as under :

State	Area (Thousand Ha)	Production (Million nuts)	Yield (Nuts/ Ha)
Kerala	676.4	2694.7	3984
All India	1154.8	5871.0	5084

Allocation of oil to States

3978. SHRI BASUDEB ACHARIA : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantity of each type of edible oil allocated, State-wise, during 1984-85 and preceding year, vis-a-vis corresponding quantity lifted;

(b) whether large regional differences exist in allocating edible oil amongst States;

(c) oil estimated to be produced, State-wise;

(d) whether per capita availability of oil is uniform; if so, details thereof; and

(e) how Government estimate the demand of edible oil, year-wise and State-wise and how is supply/availability thereof monitored to prevent scarcity and price rise and steps Government took during Sixth Plan in that direction with outcome ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): (a) Information is given in statements I to IV.

(b) to (e). The oil is allocated to various State/Union Territories from month to month on the basis of demand, consumption pattern, festival season, availability of indigenous edible oils in the State/region, availability of stock with State Trading Corporation of India and other relevant factors including pace of lifting of edible oils allocated earlier. To meet the requirement of edible oil for the country, the requisite amount of edible oil is imported keeping in view the availability of indigenous edible oils. The various measures taken/being taken by the Government to increase the production of oilseeds and oils are as follows :—

(1) Intensive programme for development of oilseeds in oilseed producing States. The Scheme aims at demonstration on farmers' fields, strengthening of seed production and distribution arrangement, expansion of plant protection measures, extension of irrigated areas etc.

(2) Launching of special projects on production of groundnut in Saurashtra region of Gujarat and Soyabean in Madhya Pradesh.

(3) Better incentive to producers through fixation of minimum support prices.

(4) Intensification of research efforts for increasing the productivity of oilseeds.

(5) Increase in area under non-traditional oilseed crop like soyabeen and sunflower and exploitation of oilseeds of tree and forest origin, rice bran etc.

(6) Setting up of necessary processing and infrastructural facilities to keep pace with the production programme of oilseeds.

Statement-I

Allocation of edible oils under PDS during the Oil Year 1983-84.

QTY : MT

S. No.	State/UT	Palmolein	REDPO	RSO (R)	SBO (R)	SFO	TOTAL
1.	Andhra Pradesh	70,650	...	...	21,800	5,750	98,200
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	...	60	590	...	...	650
3.	Assam	...	750	12,000	...	...	12,750
4.	Bihar	600	11,800	4,200	800	...	17,400
5.	Chandigarh	...	320	75	100	...	495
6.	Delhi	...	15,800	13,800	1,000	...	30,600
7.	D & N Haveli	340	...	...	20	...	360
8.	Gujarat	53,700	...	...	12,500	9,100	75,300
9.	Goa, Daman & Diu	4,600	...	...	1,050	100	5,750
10.	Haryana	100	7,300	4,700	600	...	12,700
11.	Himachal Pradesh	250	5,050	5,550	500	...	11,350
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	...	...	6,910	...	...	6,910
13.	Kerala	47,350	...	...	13,000	3,500	63,850
14.	Karnataka	34,800	...	...	10,500	4,000	49,300
15.	Lakshadweep	185	...	...	...	...	185
16.	Madhya Pradesh	9,800	8,500	10,700	11,000	...	40,000

17.	Maharashtra	1,02,500	4,000	...	31,000	15,000	1,52,500
18.	Manipur	...	1,950	4,800	...	...	6,750
19.	Meghalaya	...	150	7,245	...	...	7,395
20.	Mizoram	...	...	3,250	...	...	3,250
21.	Nagaland	...	500	5,500	...	...	6,000
22.	Orissa	8,400	4,600	25,000	500	...	38,500
23.	Pondicherry	3,060	...	200	50	100	3,410
24.	Punjab	...	19,940	750	3,900	...	24,590
25.	Rajasthan	100	8,420	1,800	1,600	...	11,920
26.	Sikkim	...	350	2,350	...	...	2,700
27.	Tripura	...	150	1,770	...	...	1,920
28.	Tamil Nadu	62,750	...	...	19,500	8,750	91,000
29.	Uttar Pradesh	300	24,180	20,500	3,000	...	47,980
30.	West Bengal	...	2,000	1,26,500	4,000	...	1,32,500
	Total	3,99,485	1,15,820	2,58,190	1,36,420	46,300	9,56,215

Summary

Palmolein	3,99,485
RBDPO	1,15,820
RSO (R)	2,58,190
SBO (R)	1,36,420
SFO (R)	46,300
Total	9,56,215

Statement-II

Lifting of edible oils under PDS during the Oil Year 1983-84

QTY : MT

S. No.	State/UT	Palmolein	RBDPO	RSO (R)	SBO (R)	SFO	TOTAL
1.	Andhra Pradesh	51,067		...	15,860	3,862	70,789
2.	Arunachal Pradesh		35	64	...	...	99
3.	Assam	...	63	3,201	...	...	3,264
4.	Bihar	248	6,547	83	69	...	6,947
5.	Chandigarh	...	259	10	...	...	269
6.	Delhi	.	11,350	11,284	918	...	23,552
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	271	...	...	..	...	271
8.	Gujarat	40,756	...	...	9,432	5,819	56,007
9.	Goa, Daman & Diu	3,965	...	...	468	...	4,433
10.	Haryana	95	5.295	3,074	689	...	9,153
11.	Himachal Pradesh	248	3,542	4,072	234	...	8,096
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	...	...	4,239	...	...	4,239
13.	Kerala	35,106	...	...	6,037	2,786	43,929
14.	Karnataka	20,874	...	...	6,672	480	28,026
15.	Lakshadweep	163	...	...	...	...	163
16.	Madhya Pradesh	8,476	3,048	4,842	4,097	...	20,463

17.	Maharashtra	78,945	...	...	18,362	14,687	1,11,994
18.	Manipur	...	1,038	3,451	...	...	4.489
19.	Meghalaya	...	151	6,292	...	...	6,443
20.	Mizoram	...	...	1,032	...	...	1,032
21.	Nagaland	...	200	1,596	...	...	1,796
22.	Orissa	6,241	690	11,108	...	...	18,039
23.	Pondicherry	3,089	...	...	...	159	3,248
24.	Punjab	...	11,814	300	196	...	12,310
25.	Rajasthan	96	5,260	454	276	...	6,086
26.	Sikkim	...	186	1,007	...	...	1,193
27.	Tripura	...	10	460	...	...	470
28.	Tamil Nadu	36,378			8,702	8,522	53,602
29.	Uttar Pradesh		23,386	13,226	454	...	37,066
30.	West Bengal	...	1,730	87,093	...	...	88,823
	Total	2,86,018	74,604	156,888	72,466	36,315	6,26,291

Summary

Paimolein	2,86,018
RBDPO	74,604
RSO (R)	1,56,888
SBO (R)	72,466
SFO (R)	36,315
Total	6,26,291

Statements-III

Allocation of edible oils under PDS during the month of November 1984 to April 1985

QTY : MT

S. No.	State/UT	Palmolein	RBDPO	RSO (R)	SBO (R)	SFO (R)	TOTAL
1.	Andhra Pradesh	55,000	...	...	...	2,600	57,600
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	...	...	230	...	...	230
3.	Assam	...	1,500	3,700	...	...	5,200
4.	Bihar	...	8,300	2,000	...	...	10,300
5.	Chandigarh	...	280	...	...	...	280
6.	Delhi	...	9,500	7,000	...	...	16,500
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	180	...	...	...	...	180
8.	Gujarat	35,500	...	...	...	...	35,500
9.	Goa, Daman & Diu	3,350	...	...	...	...	3,350
10.	Haryana	...	5,500	5,000	...	...	10,500
11.	Himachal Pradesh	...	3,200	2,750	...	...	5,950
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	...	...	5,500	...	...	5,500
13.	Kerala	27,500	...	...	...	...	27,500
14.	Karnataka	19,500	...	...	...	2,000	21,500
15.	Lakshadweep	120	...	...	...	...	120
16.	Madhya Pradesh	16,500	...	4,800	...	...	21,300
17.	Maharashtra	44,000	16,000	...	...	...	60,000

18.	Manipur	...	1,250	1,650	...	...	2,900
19.	Meghalaya	...	...	4,100	...	...	4,100
20.	Mizoram	...	...	1,200	...	...	1,200
21.	Nagaland	...	1,200	2,700	...	...	3,900
22.	Orissa	4,300	1,500	6,400	...	...	12,200
23.	Pondicherry	2,200	...	...	...	...	2,200
24.	Punjab	...	13,000	...	...	...	13,000
25.	Rajasthan	...	2,900	2,500	...	...	5,400
26.	Sikkim	...	500	1,300	...	...	1,800
27.	Tripura	...	150	1,200	...	...	1,350
28.	Tamil Nadu	37,900	...	...	...	3,100	41,000
29.	Uttar Pradesh	...	11,500	10,500	...	...	22,000
30.	West Bengal	...	...	67,000	...	...	67,000
31.	A & N Islands	...	10	15	...	...	25
	Total	2,46,050	76,290	1,29,545	...	7,700	4,59,585

Summary

Palmolein	2,46,050
RBDPO	76,290
RSO (R)	1,29,545
SBO (R)	...
SFO (R)	7,700
Total	4,59,585

Statement-IV

Lifting of edible oils under PDS during the month of November 1984 to April 1985

QTY : MT

S. No.	State/UT	Palmolein	RBDPO	RSO (R)	SBO (R)	SFO (R)	Total
1.	Andhra Pradesh	49,793	...	...	...	2,600	52,398
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	...	...	15	...	...	15
3.	Assam	...	310	2,061	...	...	2,371
4.	Bihar	656	2,773	300	...	...	3,729
5.	Chandigarh	...	209	...	...	...	209
6.	Delhi	...	5,702	3,649	...	...	9,351
7.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	100	...	...	...	...	100
8.	Gujarat	31,733	...	...	...	257	31,990
9.	Goa, Daman & Diu	2,535	...	...	...	...	2,535
10.	Haryana	...	3,427	978	...	...	4,405
11.	Himachal Pradesh	...	1,972	1,560	...	...	3,532
12.	Jammu & Kashmir	...	...	1,631	...	...	1,631
13.	Kerala	22,088	...	...	...	...	22,088
14,	Karnataka	18,685	...	...	...	...	18,685
15.	Lakshadweep	60	...	...	...	...	60
16.	Madhya Pradesh	6,226	4,937	1,711	...	...	12,874
17.	Maharashtra	42,498	6,543	...	...	...	49,041

18.	Manipur	...	628	1,440	...	...	2,068
19.	Meghalaya	...	...	3,137	...	...	3,137
20.	Mizoram	...	...	752	...	...	760
21.	Nagaland	...	565	1,630	...	...	2,195
22.	Orissa	1,263	...	...	...	...	1,263
23.	Pondicherry	1,788	...	...	...	...	1,788
24.	Punjab	...	7,829	329	...	...	8,158
25.	Rajasthan	...	3,345	927	...	...	4,272
26.	Sikkim	...	100	243	...	...	343
27.	Tripura	...	17	143	...	...	160
28.	Tamil Nadu	34,891	...	...	...	3,234	38,125
29.	Uttar Pradesh	...	7,735	2,680	...	...	10,415
30.	West Bengal	...	...	42,303	...	...	42,303
31.	A & N Islands	5	...	5	...	...	10
	Total	2,12,321	46,100	65,494	...	6,091	3,30,006

Summary

Palmolein	2,12,321
RBDPO	46,100
RSO (R)	65,494
SBO (R)	...
SFO (R)	6,091
Total	3,30,006

Low yield of agricultural crops in West Bengal

3979. SHRI BHOLA NATH SEN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) what was the growth rate of production, productivity (per hectare yield), and area in respect of rice, wheat, pulses and oilseeds in West Bengal as compared to that of Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Assam and Orissa ;

(b) the reasons for lower yields/growth rates in West Bengal ; and

(c) the steps taken/proposed to be taken to increase production in West Bengal ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) and (b). A statement giving the requisite information is enclosed. It may be observed therefrom that the growth rate in productivity of oilseeds is the highest in West Bengal. While the growth rate in productivity of wheat in West Bengal is relatively low, that in the case of total pulses turns out to be negative. It may, however, be stated that the yield levels in the State, 2596 kgs. per hectare in case of wheat and 655 kgs per hectare in case of total pulses during 1983-84, are among the highest in the country. In respect of rice, both the growth rate in productivity and the yield levels in the State are low, mainly on account of low fertiliser application, low seed replacement, lack of proper irrigation facilities and poor drainage system, etc.

(c) Following steps are being taken to increase the production and productivity of rice in West Bengal :

(i) increase in area under high yielding varieties-particularly during Aus and Aman seasons ;

(ii) selection of appropriate varieties suitable for different agro-climatic condition ;

(iii) adequate and timely supply of quality seeds ;

(iv) increase in the consumption of fertilisers ;

(v) adoption of efficient methods of cultivation and water-management ; and

(vi) adequate plant protection measures, provision of other critical inputs such as credit etc.

In addition, a Central Sector Scheme of Pilot Project has been implemented in ten selected blocks during 1984-85 as a fore-runner to the Special Rice Production Programme to be taken up in the State during the Seventh Five Year Plan.

Statement

Compound growth rates of Area, Production and yield of selected crops during 1967-68 to 1983-84

(In per cent per annum)

State	Rice			Wheat			Total Pulses			Total Oilseeds		
	Area	Prod.	Yield	Area	Prod.	Yield	Area	Prod.	Yield	Area	Prod.	Yield
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Andhra Pradesh	1.30	4.13	2.80	—	—	—	0.44	3.50	3.05	—0.32	0.91	1.23
Assam*	1.21	1.74	0.53	9.05	10.28	1.13	2.99	3.04	0.06	5.30	6.10	0.75
Bihar	—0.32	—0.42	—0.10	2.90	4.81	1.85	—2.08	—2.84	—0.78	0.29	0.58	0.30
Haryana	6.11	10.98	4.59	4.09	6.41	2.23	—2.90	—5.61	—2.80	1.69	3.66	1.93
Madhya Pradesh	0.90	0.94	0.04	0.92	3.54	2.59	1.47	1.79	0.32	1.11	3.30	2.17
Orissa	—0.47	—0.52	—0.05	11.43	14.63	2.87	6.23	6.81	0.55	7.13	8.62	1.39
Punjab	10.83	16.90	5.46	2.83	5.46	2.56	—4.24	—5.93	—1.77	—4.40	—5.08	—0.71
Uttar Pradesh	1.26	4.12	2.85	3.27	6.38	3.01	—2.32	—2.32	Neg.	—1.16	—1.12	0.04
West Bengal	0.32	0.66	0.34	4.07	5.86	1.72	—3.63	—4.19	—0.58	5.84	9.37	3.34

*Growth-rates relate to the period 1970-71 to 1983-84

Neg.—Negligible.

[*Translation*]

Financial assistance to muncipalities of Uttar Pradesh

3980. SHRI HARISH RAWAT : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether his Ministry is providing financial assistance to some small and medium municipalities of Uttar Pradesh ;

(b) if so, the amount provided to each of the municipalities during 1984-85 ;

(c) whether Government propose to cover more municipalities under this scheme in future ;

(d) if so, whether Pithoragarh and Bageshwar municipalities in Uttar Pradesh are also likely to get the benefit of this scheme in future ; and

(e) if so, by what time ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) The Ministry is not providing any financial assistance directly to any Municipality in Uttar Pradesh. However, under the Centrally Sponsored Scheme for the Integrated Development of small and Medium Towns assistance is provided to the State Government for approved towns. The State Governments pass on the central assistance alongwith the State's matchining share to the implementing agencies which are normally Municipalities.

(b) During 1984-85, the Central loan assistance provided to the Government of Uttar Pradesh for the approved towns under the Schemes are as under :

	Towns	Central Assistance (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Barabanki	15.00
2.	Raebareli	15.00
3.	Sitapur	12.00
4.	Hardoi	12.50
5.	Deoria	14.00
6.	Low Cost Sanitation for Sitapur and Orai	8.53
	Total	77.03

(c) to (e). The question of covering additional towns in various States is under consideration by the Ministry in consultation with the Planning Commission. The question of including Pithoragarh and Bageshwar towns in Uttar Pradesh will be decided on receipt of recommendation of the State Government.

[*English*]

Import of Coconut Oil

3981. SHRI T. BASHEER : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) the quantum of import of coconut oil during 1984 ;

(b) whether a large quantity of coconut oil was also imported under the name of industrial oil during 1984 ;

(c) if so, the details thereof ;

(d) whether the import of the coconut oil will adversely affect the coconut cultivation and also economy of Kerala ; and

(e) if so, whether Government propose to issue immediate orders to ban import of coconut oil ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) A quantity of 9044 metric tonnes of Refined Bleached Dedorised coconut oil was imported in 1984.

(b) and (c). State Trading Corporation, which is the canalising agency for import of edible oils, has not imported any coconut oil under the name of industrial oil during 1984.

(d) and (e). It is not intended to import coconut oil on a regular basis. A small quantity was imported in 1984 to relieve pressure on the price of indigenous coconut oil.

Telecast of Tamil programmes on the Delhi Doordarshan

3982. SHRI E. S. M. PAKEER MOHAMED : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) the number of Tamil language films and programmes shown on the Delhi Doordarshan during the last three months;

(b) whether there is discrimination against Tamil programmes;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether there is any proposal to start regional language based News, Bulletins; and

(e) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V. N. GADGIL) : (a) One Tamil feature film and two Tamil programmes were telecast by Doordarshan Kendra, Delhi, during the period 25.12.1984 to 24.3.1985. Four song and dance sequences from Tamil feature films were also included in the 'Chitramala' programmes telecast during this period.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

[*Translation*]

Decision to set up co-operative sugar mill in Faizabad district, Uttar Pradesh

3983. SHRI R. P. SUMAN : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have decided to set up a co-operative sugar mill in Akbarpur Faizabad district in Uttar Pradesh; if so, the reasons for cancelling the licence issued earlier in this regard;

(b) the head-wise share-capital deposit of the farmers in respect of this sugar mill and how Government propose to utilise this amount ;

(c) whether Government propose to issue again a licence for setting up a sugar mill keeping in view the serious problems of sugarcane growers and the above share capital deposits; and

(d) if so, by what time and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). A licence was granted to the Kisan Sahkari Chini Mills Ltd. for setting up a new sugar factory of 1250 TCD in April, 1974. Initially, the licence was valid for a period of two years i.e. upto 19.4.76 and thereafter, the validity period of the licence was extended by one more year i.e. upto 19.4.77 to allow the cooperative to collect the requisite share capital of Rs. 20 lakhs. As the progress of the implementation of the project was unsatisfactory, a show-cause notice was issued to the Cooperative Society on 24.12.1977 and the licence was revoked on 18.3.78 i.e. after about four years. The Cooperative was able to collect a share capital of Rs. 11.00 lakhs and could not place orders for the plant and machinery due to lack of sufficient funds.

2. In October, 1980, a fresh application was received for grant of an industrial licence for the establishment of a new 1250 TCD sugar factory at Akbarpur, Distt. Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh. This application was considered by the Screening Committee at its meeting held on 12.12.1980 and the Screening Committee observed that the availability of sugarcane in the area was only 1.5 lakh tonnes and most of the cane was being utilised for the production of gur and khandsari. It was also noted that there was not much potential for the development of sugarcane in the area. The Screening Committee, therefore, recommended rejection of this application, whereafter the case was considered by the Licensing Committee which also rejected the application and a prima-facie rejection letter was issued to the party on 25.2.1981 giving them three weeks time for making any representation. The time for submission of the representation was later on extended upto 30.4.1981 by the Department of Industrial Development on the request of the State Government. As no representation was received in this regard

within the specified time, the case has been treated as closed.

3. If the Cooperative Society still desire to set up a sugar factory and find the project feasible now, they can apply afresh to the Department of Industrial Development through the State Government.

4. The application, as and when received, will be considered by the concerned authorities in accordance with the guidelines in vogue

[English]

Criteria adopted for assistance under RLEGP

3984. SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI :
SHRI K. PRADHANI :

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the criteria adopted while granting financial assistance under Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme in favour of landless labourers in the State; and

(b) the number of landless labourers in Orissa and their percentage in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) and (b). Under the Rural Landless Employment Guarantee Programme, central assistance is allocated to the States/Union Territories on the basis of the following criteria :-

(i) 75% weightage being given to the number of ageicultural workers and marginal farmesr in the States/Union Territories.

(ii) 25% weightage being given to the incidence of poverty in each State/Union Territory.

The number of rural agricultural workers in the State of Orissa is approximately 23.09 lakhs according to the 1981 census out of a total of approximately 531 lakhs agricultural workers in the entire country. The percentage of rural agricultural workers in the State as compared to the total number of such workers in the country comes to 4.35% approximately. There are 16.66 lakhs approximately marginal holdings in the State of Orissa as compared to 445.32 lakhs marginal holdings in the entire country. The percentage of holdings in the State of Orissa as compared to the number of holdings in the country comes to 3.74% approximately.

[Translation]

Temporary Employees Working in Satellite TV Centre Mandi House

3985 SHRI JAGANNATH PRASAD : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) number of temporary class IV employees in the Satellite Television Centre, Mandi House, New Delhi who have been working there for the last 240 days or more;

(b) whether the services of these employees are being terminated; and

(c) if so, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Twentyseven daily wage employees working at Upgraha Doordarshan Kendra, New Delhi have completed 240 days of casual service in the calander year 1984;

(b) and (c). The services of three such employees have been discontinued since the specific work for which they had been engaged was over;

[English]

Agreement by NFDC with MPEAA

3986. SHRI ATISH CHANDRA SINHA : Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state :

(a) whether the National Film Development Corporation (NFDC) has signed any agreement with Motion Picture Export Association of America (MPEAA) regarding canalisation of American films brought into India;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and
(c) the terms of settlement ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI V.N. GADGIL) : (a) Yes, Sir, the agreement was signed on 1st April, 1985.

(b) and (c). The broad details and terms of the agreement are as follows :

(1) The agreement is for a period of three years from 1st February, 1985.

(2) It provides for import of 75-100 films per year on payment of a fixed canalisation fee of Rs. 26.50 lakhs per annum to NFDC in advance in quarterly instalments.

(3) The annual gross film rental billings of MPEAA will be utilised in the following manner :-

(i) Operating expenses, i.e. all operating, managerial and administrative expenses for liaison offices of MPEAA in India, import charges, payment of any taxes due to Government of whatsoever nature or any other expenditure customary or related to the film distribution-50%.

(ii) Interest-free loans to quasi-Government or Government sponsored organisations including NFDC—17.5%.

(iii) Remittances in quarterly instalments, by member companies of MPEAA—15%(Subject to a ceiling of Rs. 40 lakhs per annum)

(iv) Various usages like production and co-production of films in India, travel and living expenses, transportation of employees, purchase of Indian films, etc. 17.5%.

Price of milk

3987. SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2035 on 8 April, 1985 and state :

(a) the quantity of milk of each type sold and its sale price, year-wise during Sixth Plan, by Delhi Milk Scheme, Mother Dairy and Bombay Dairy, each with dates from which increased price of each type was charged, dairy-wise upto 15 April, 1985;

(b) the procurement price of milk, year-wise and dairy-wise, paid correspondingly with concurrent overhead costs per litre incurred on each type of milk sold;

(c) whether Delhi Mother Dairy earned profit in 1983-84 but incurred heavy loss in 1984-85; if so details with corresponding figures for Delhi Milk Scheme and reasons for inconsistent trends between two dairies; and

(d) quantity of indigenous skimmed milk powder and its price paid by Dairy Corporation, year-wise, for its purchase and sold to these dairies ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) to (d). Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

[*Translation*]

Approval of Schemes Submitted by M.P. Government

3988. SHRI BALKAVI BAIRAGI : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) whether Madhya Pradesh Government have submitted certain schemes to his ministry under the schemes for small and medium sized cities in regard to Gadarwara Municipality, Hoshangabad Municipality and schemes of Pachmari special area development authority; and

(b) if so, the latest position of the said three schemes; the time by which these schemes are likely to be approved by Government and the reasons for delay in granting the approval ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Schemes are under process of finalisation. There has been no delay since these are in addition to 16 towns already covered during the Sixth Five Year Plan and can only be considered during the current year which has just commenced.

[*English*]

Assistance by CLUSA and Canadian Cooperatives in oil seeds production

3989. SHRI M. RAGHUMA REDDY : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1997 on 8 April, 1985 and state :

(a) details of assistance CLUSA and Canadian cooperatives, separately, have rendered for oilseeds production enhancement in India, rupee value of such assistance from each, year-wise, in Sixth Plan; its use, State-wise and year-wise and corresponding outcome to-date;

(b) whether in Madhya Pradesh average Soyabean production per hectare declined after 1981-82 while area sown increased;

(c) if so, acreage and soyabean production, year-wise from 1982-83 to 1984-85, in Madhya Pradesh and Uttar Pradesh and all India percentage figures;

(d) whether in addition to assistance received in kind major part of edible, vegetable oil imported, year-wise, in Sixth Plan also was of soyabean; and

(e) if so, year-wise quantity of oil of each kind imported, price paid, country of origin and how distributed, State-wise ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) The assistance obtained by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) through the Cooperative League of U.S.A. (CLUSA) and Cooperative Union of Canada (CUC) in different years for oilseeds development is in the shape of gift refined soyabean oil and crude rapeseed oil. The details are as follows :-

('000 MT)

Year	Receipts	
	Refined Soyabean oil	Crude Rapeseed oil
1	2	3
1979-80	55.88	—
1980-81	9.97	3.26
1981-82	16.82	12.47
1282-83	21.38	17.18
1983-84	13.03	18.30
1984-85*	9.50	—
Total	126.58	51.21

*Upto January, 1985

State-wise and year-wise sale of gift vegetable oil mainly to the State Level Oilseeds Growers Cooperative Federations in different States where NDDB's Oilseed Project is under implementation is given below :-

(000 MT)

States/ year	Gujarat	Madhya Pradesh	Tamil Nadu	Andhra Pradesh	Orissa	Maharshtra
1979-80						
RSBO	22.12	3.45	—	—	—	5.69
1980-81						
RSBO	12.56	10.89	—	—	—	1.68
1981-82						
RSBO	4.95	2.21	0.01	—	—	—
CRSO	1.50	—	—	—	—	—
1982-83						
RSBO	11.48	4.05	2.86	0.19	0.86	—
CRSO	4.17	—	—	—	—	—
1983-84						
RSBO	11.31	4.75	2.46	2.32	1.96	—
CRSO	12.93	0.58	0.25	—	—	—
RRO	0.26	0.77	0.06	0.03	0.03	—
1984-85*						
RSBO	2.32	0.52	1.06	1.35	1.41	—
CRSO	0.01	—	—	—	—	—
RRO	3.81	1.98	0.73	0.03	0.03	—

RSBO—Refined Soyabean Oil
CRSO—Crude Rapeseed Oil
RRO —Refined Rapeseed Oil

*Upto January, 1985

The funds generated by sale of gift oil have been used by the Oilseed Growers Cooperative Federations for incrersing production of oilseeds and their marketing and processing.

(b) The area under soyabean and productivity of this crop in Madhya Pradesh from 1981-82 has been as follows :-

Year	Area under Soyabean ('000 hectares)	Productivity (kg. per hectare)
1981-82	307.3	765
1982-83	584.1	614
1983-84	615.8	715

The fluctuations in productivity have been mainly due to seasonal/weather conditions.

(c) The area and production of soyabean in Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and in India since 1982-83 are as follows :-

A—Area ('000 hectares)

P—Production ('000 tonnes)

State	1982-83 (P)		1983-84 (P)		1984-85	
	A	P	A	P	A	P
Madhy Pradesh	584.1	358.6	615.8	440.3	934.8	744.1
	(75.8)	(73.0)	(75.6)	(75.5)		
Uttar Pradesh	157.2	117.4	157.2	117.4	N.A.	N.A.
	(20.4)	(23.9)	(19.3)	(20.1)		
All India	770.2	491.0	814.2	583.0	N.A.	N.A.

(P) ..Provisional

NA ..Not Available

Note : Figures given in brackets are percentages to all India area/production of soyabean.

(d) and (e) The assistance to National Dairy Development Board for the Project "Restructuring Edible Oilseeds Production and Marketing" from CLUSA and CUC has been in the nature of gift. The details of refined soyabean oil and crude rapeseed oil obtained year-wise have been given above in part (a) of the Question. No price is paid for the gifted soyabean and rapeseed oil. The CLUSA supplies the refined soyabean oil and CUC supplies the crude rapeseed oil. The gifted oil is distributed mainly to the State level Oilseed Growers Cooperative Federations.

News-item Captioned "Only 50 per cent rainfall available

3990. SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether his attention been drawn to news-item "Only 50 per cent Rainfall Available for Farms" appearing in the 'Economic Times' dated 26 January, 1985;

(b) if so, whether this issue has been processed in the Ministry and if so, with what results;

(c) in which States the scheme is going to be implemented; and

(d) whether the district of Pali Marwar in Rajasthan will be surveyed for the above scheme for better utilisation of rainfall in the district ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d). The Government has accorded high priority to dryland development programmes which have been included as item No. 1 of the New 20-Point Programme. Broadly, these programmes aim at improving the productivity of land through appropriate land treatment measures coupled with suitable agronomical practics. The areas in which such developmental work is taken up are finanalised in consultation with the State Governments.

Central Assistance for Development of Small and Medium Towns

3991. SHRI K. RAMAMURTHY : Will the Minister of WORKS AND HOUSING be pleased to state :

(a) the names of small and medium towns with a population of less than one lakh, which have received assistance under the Central Scheme of Integrated Development of small and medium Towns;

(b) whether many State Governments have not transferred the Central assistance to the implementing agencies ; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken to implement this scheme vigorously ?

THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND HOUSING (SHRI ABDUL GHAFOOR) : (a) As in statement attached.

(b) In the initial years of implementing the Scheme, there were delays in transferring the central assistance by the State Governments to their implementing agencies. However, with the implementation gaining momentum, no delays have been noticed now in any of the States or U.Ts.

(c) The steps being taken to implement the scheme vigorously are as under :

(i) quarterly progress reports are being obtained from the State Governments and U.Ts. indicating the progress both in physical and financial terms.

(ii) Physical verification is being carried out regularly by the officers of the Ministry and the Town and Country Planning Organisation.

(iii) Periodical meetings are also held with the State Governments and U. T. Officials to sort out specific problems arising in any particular town.

(iv) Workshops are held frequently at various centres in order to educate officials of the implementing agencies.

Statement

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING ORGANISATION

Statement indicated the towns covered Statewise State/UTs

I. ANDHRA PRADESH (Allocated towns 18)

1. Ramachandrapuram
2. Tenali
3. Anakapalli
4. Vizianagaram
5. Bhimavaram
6. Karim Nagar
7. Tirupathi
8. Khammam
9. Srikakulam
10. Medak
11. Guntakal
12. Chittor
13. Gadwal
14. Nandyal
15. Proddatur
16. Mehbubnagar
17. Bhimunipatnam
18. Zahirabad

III. ASSAM (Allocated towns 5)

1. Tinsukia
2. Silchar
3. Tejpur
4. Jorhat
5. Dibrugarh

III. BIHAR (Allocated towns 15)

1. Hajipur
2. Gopalganj
3. Saharsa
4. Daltonganj

5. Chapra
6. Dumka
7. Chaibasa
8. Begusarai
9. Deogarh
10. Arrah
11. Hazaribagh
12. Bettiah
13. Giridih
14. Dhanbad
15. Katihar

IV. GUJARAT (Allocated towns 17)

1. Anand
2. Patan North
3. Porbandar
4. Valsad
5. Varaval Pattam
6. Palanpur
7. Ankleshwar
8. Dahod
9. Mehmadabad
10. Godhra
11. Bhuj
12. Mehsana
13. Khambat
14. Amreli
15. Kalol Saij
15. Sanand
17. Dehegam

V. HARYANA (Allocated towns 6)

1. Narnaul
2. Sirsa
3. Sohna
4. Karnal
5. Kurukshetra
6. Hissar

VI. HIMACHAL PRADESH (Allocated towns 1)

1. Simla (Kasumpti)

VII. JAMMU & KASHMIR (Allocated towns 2)

1. Anant Nag

VIII. KARNATAKA (Allocated towns 16)

1. Hassan
2. Chitradurga
3. Tumkur
4. Raichur
5. Hospet
6. Channapatna
7. Kanakanpura
8. Magadi
9. Humnabad
10. Holenarsipur
11. Sagar
12. Shahapur
13. Jamkhandi
14. Kushal Nagar
15. Ranibennur
16. Kearkala

IX. KERALA (Allocated towns 9)

1. Guruvayoor
2. Kottayam
3. Trichur
4. Kayamkulam
5. Tellicherri
6. Tirur
7. Changancherri
8. Badagara
9. Mallapuram

X. MADHYA PRADESH (Allocated towns 16)

1. Bilaspur
2. Khajuraho

3. Dewas
4. Itarsi
5. Rewa
6. Katni
7. Burhanpur
8. Morena
9. Dongargarh
10. Rajnandgaon
11. Balaghat
12. Chindwara
13. Harda
14. Waidhan
15. Sidhi
16. Guna

XI. MAHARASHTRA (Allocated towns 22)

1. Manmad
2. Barsi
3. Parli Vaijnath
4. Yeotmal
5. Satara
6. Ratnagiri
7. Katol
8. Amalner
9. Parbhani
10. Kamptee
11. Kinwat
12. Osmanabad
13. Morshi
14. Hinganghat
15. Jalna
16. Ambejogai
17. Selu
18. Degres
19. Bhandara
20. Washim
21. Islampur
22. Baramati

XII. MANIPUR (Allocated towns 2)

1. Chandel
2. Kakching

XIII. MEGHALAYA (Allocated towns 2)

1. Shillong
2. Tura

XIV. NAGALAND (Allocated town 1)

1. Kohima

XV. ORISSA (Allocated towns 6)

1. Puri
2. Sambalpur
3. Balasore
4. Rourkela
5. Jeypore
6. Dhenkanal

XVI. PUNJAB (Allocated towns 8)

1. Pathankot
2. Hoshiarpur
3. Sangrur
4. Moga
5. Phagwara
6. Khanna
7. Bhatinda
8. Batala

XVII. RAJASTHAN (Allocated towns 11)

1. Pali
2. Baran
3. Bhilwara
4. Sikar
5. Churur
6. Sumerpur
7. Nathdwara
8. Barmer

9. Ganganagar
10. Jaisalmer
11. Chittorgarh

XVIII. SIKKIM (Allocated towns 1)

1. Jortheng

XIX. UTTAR PRADESH (Allocated towns 23)

1. Jaunpur
2. Fatehpur
3. Azamgarh
4. Hathras
5. Banda
6. Barabanki
7. Raibareili
8. Almora
9. Etah
10. Balia
11. Mehoba
12. Kashganj
13. Gajipur
14. Sitapur
15. Mainpuri
16. Hardoi
17. Bijnor
18. Orai
19. Deoria
20. Badaun
21. Amethi
22. Kashipur
23. Padrauna

XX. TAMIL NADU (Allocated towns 28)

1. Oatacammund
2. Karur
3. Dharampuri
4. Pudukottai
5. Tiruchangoda
6. Palani
7. Gobbi Chettipalayam
8. Manargudi
9. Dharampuram
10. Mattupalayam
11. Changalpattu
12. Coonoor
13. Attur
14. Tiruvalamalai
15. Udamalpet
16. Nammakkal
17. Kovilpatti
18. Hosur
19. Pollachi
20. Theni-Allinagram
21. Nagapattinam
22. Ranipet-Wallazapet Arcot
23. Panruti
24. Karaikudi
25. Kallakurichi
26. Arni
27. Arakkonam
28. Shivaganga

XXI. TRIPURA (Allocated towns 2)

1. Udaipur
2. Kailashahar

XXII. WEST BENGAL (Allocated towns 20)

1. Kharagpur
2. Midnapur
3. Bankura
4. Kalimpong
5. Coochbehar
6. Purulia
7. English Bazar
8. Krishna Nagar

9. Suri
10. Tarkeshwar
11. Jalpaiguri
12. Siliguri
13. Darjeeling
14. Berhampur
15. Ballarghat
16. Bishnupur
17. Basirhat
18. Raiganj
19. Ranaghat
20. Katwa

UNION TERRITORIES

I. A & N ISLAND (Allocated towns 1)
   1. Port Blair

II. ARUNACHAL PRADESH (Allocated towns 1)

—

III. DADRA & NAGAR HAVELI (Allocated towns 1)
   1. Silvasa

IV. GOA DAMAN & DIU (Allocated towns 1)
   1. Panaji

V. MIZORAM (Allocated towns 1)
   1. Aizawl

VI. PONDICHERRY (Allocated towns 1)
   1. Karaikal

Changes in Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1979

3992. SHRI GIRIDHAR GOMANGO : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) the changes suggested in the Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1979 by Governmet of Orissa;

(b) the reaction of Government of India to those changes and communicated to that State; and

(c) the steps taken by Central Government to clear the Bill ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : (a) to (c). The Orissa Land Reforms (Amendment) Bill, 1979 is still under consideration. The question of making any changes in the Bill by the Government of Orisss at this stage does not arise.

Import of Edible Oil

3993. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Central Organisation of Oil Industry and Trade (Bombay) has urged the Government to stop edible oil imports;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) They have stated that the increase in import of edible oils has adversely affected its indigenous production and have resulted in unremunerative prices to soyabean growers during 1984. The import of edible oils is also not conductive to self-sufficiency in Seventh Plan.

(c) In view of the present gap between demand and supply of indigenous edible oils it is not possible to stop all imports immediately.

Drought in Kumaon and Garhwal Areas

3994. SHRI MANVENDRA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Kumaon and Garhwal areas have been affected by drought during 1984-85;

(b) if so, whether Government would declare these areas as drought affected areas; and

(c) if not, whether Government would like to conduct any survey to know about the drought condition in these areas ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI

BUTA SINGH): (a) to (c). The information is being collected from the State Government for placing on the Table of Lok Sabha in, due course.

Reduction of selling price of Fertilizers

3995. PROF. RAMKRISHNA MORE : Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received representations/suggestions regarding the reduction in selling price of fertilizers;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) Government's reaction thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH): (a) and (b). (i) A suggestion was received from Sitapur stating that farmers know that use of fertiliser is profitable to him but they are so poor that they are not able to use the fertiliser in a balanced manner and therefore it was necessary to reduce the prices of fertilizers so that sufficient quantity of fertilisers are used and production increased to improve the economic condition of the Nation.

(ii) A number of farmers/dealers in Punjab have represented that Ammonium Chloride which is not under Statutory price control has been found very useful but its price is very high and action should be taken by Government to reduce its price,

(c) (i) Fertiliser is already a highly subsidised commodity and not withstanding its increasing cost, the prices were reduced by 7 1/2 % in June, 1983.

(ii) Ammonium Chloride has been brought under Statutory price control with effect from 19.4.85 and the price to farmer anywhere in the country has been fixed at Rs. 1550/- M.T.

11.50 hrs.

Several Hon. Members *rose.*

[*Interruptions*]

MR. SPEAKER : One by one. I cannot listen to you all at the same time. I have already allowed Dr. Patel to speak. Why are you interrupting ? This is not proper. Let him have his say.

Dr. A. K. PATEL (Mehsana) : I would like to bring to your attention the atrocities by the Police in Ahmedabad. I have brought some photos.

MR. SPEAKER : You can give it to me. I will try to find out what is what. I will examine them.

DR. A. K. PATEL : It should be investigated.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA (Basirhat) : I bring to your notice the serious report that some non-official agencies are preparing maps of some restricted and strategic border areas and sending them out to foreigners. This is a matter against the security of the country.

MR. SPEAKER : I am waiting for the information. I am getting the facts.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduar) : Of course, it is a State subject. Sir, in Bihar 15 people were killed in Police firing, including an ex-M.P., Fr. Anthony.

MR. SPEAKER : I will look into it.

I have to say something. I think I will have to appeal to the whole House and to all the parties who are represented or are not represented in the House and to the general public at large in the whole country. This incidence of violence is not a healthy trend for the democratic institutions. This is a negation of democracy. If we are to opt for violence, then democracy will not exist.

SHRI INDRAJIT GUPTA : Please find out what it is due to.

MR. SPEAKER : We have to find out

and we have to think about it. When we have a system whereby you can change the Constitution, whereby you can change the laws, why should there be this violence ? We have just had the elections. We can just sit togther and find a way out. You can do whatever you like by a proper method enunciated in the Constitution itself.

This is the land of Gandhiji. He fought the battle by non-violence. Everywhere you see violence, in Punjab or in Gujarat, and now this Adivasi violence; I am perturbed about these things. 'I am very much perturbed about it. I am going to give a special calling Attention for tomorrow on this subject of Adivasis. I have admitted it just now. I have to appeal to you all. This is something which must exercise the hearts and minds of all the people in this country and we have to fight against this menace. We have to fight. against this nonsence. This is something which will destroy the very atmosphere of peace and the very progress and prosperity in the country. We should all get united on this. Every recourse is available. We have not barred anybody from taking even the government in their hands. It is by ballot. They can do it. They have done it. They can do it again. Let them exercise their right. We must not allow these people to have the upper hand and destroy the basic concept of demoeracy in this country.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY (Buxar) : A very serious matter I am bringing to your notice. Hundreds of acres of poor farmers and poor peasants in and around...

MR. SPEAKER : You can give it to me. I will look into it Prof. K.K. Tewary :*

I do not know how far it is true.

SUNDAY has published a report. This matter should be investigated.

MR. SPEAKER : I will consider it. That reference will not go on record. I will find out. I will have to find out.

PROF. K. K. TEWARY : If it is true it should be inquired into. If it is not true...

MR. SPEAKER : I canno't say anything off hand. I have to find out.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) : Sir, we have discussed a Calling Attention here on the subject of death by inflamable kerosene in Kerala and the Hon. Minister assured us that all steps will be taken and the stocks have been frozen...

MR. SPEAKER : What do you want now ?

SHRI T. BASHEER : Further deaths are taking place.

MR. SPEAKER : You give a fresh notice and we will again ask the Minister.

SHRI T. BASHEER : The Minister assured us. Twenty four deaths have taken place. You may ask the Minister...

SHRI SOMNATH RATH (Aska) : Sir, I have given a Calling Attention notice today. On the acute scarcity of drinking water in Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER : I have not seen it. It has not come to me.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Sir, banks are supposed to help the unemployed young men by giving loans and they are not supposed to take any security. They are refusing loan by asking for security. Sir, you know one case has come to light in which some nationalised bank has given a loan of more than Rs. 18 crores under political pressure...

MR. SPEAKER : You give me in writing. I will have to find out the facts.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : Sir, you know this happened in Haryana.

MR. SPEAKER : We will see. If there is any factual substance in it we will see.

DR. KRUPASINDHU BHOI (Sambalpur) : Sir, about massacre of Tamilians.

MR. SPEAKER : We have already decided about it.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK : Sir,

---

*Expunged as ordered by the chair.

there is acute water shortage...

MR. SPEAKER : We have already discussed about water shortage. Were you not present in the house.

SHRI JAGANNATH PATTNAIK (Kalahandi) : The situation is very acute in Orissa.

MR. SPEAKER : Every part of India was considered.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : Sir, a grave situation has arisen out of Pakistan's getting arms ..

MR. SPEAKER : Not like this. You give a notice.

11.58 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

National Cadet Corps (Girl Divisions) Third Amenment Rules 1985 and detailed Demands for Crants of the Ministry of Defence for 1985-86.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARY) : Sir, on behalf of Shri P.V. Narasimha Rao I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the National Cadet Corps (Girl Division) Third Amendment Rules, 1985 (Hindi and English versions) published in Notification No. SRO 57 in Gazette of India dated the 23rd March, 1985, under sub-section (3) of section 13 of the National Cadet Corps Act, 1948.

[Placed in library. *See* No. LT-747/85]

(2) A copy of the Detailed Demads for Grants (Hindi and English-versions the Ministry of Defence for the year 1985 owing.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-748/15]

Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of fishing by foreign vessels) Amenement Rules, 1965 Review on the working of and Annual Report of India Dairy Corporation Baroda for 1983-84 and statement for delay etc.,

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : I beg to lay on the Table—

(1) A copy of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Amendment Rules, 1985 (Hindi English versions) published in Notification No. SO 286(E) in Gazette of India dated the 4th April, 1985, under sub-section (4) of section 25 of the Maritime Zones of India (Regulation of Fishing by Foreign Vessels) Act, 1981.

[Placed in Library. *see* No. LT 749/85]

(2) A copy each of the following years (Hindi and English versions) under sub-section (if so, and 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Indian Dairy Corporation, Baroda, for the year 1983-84.

(ii) Annual Report of the Indian Dairy Corporation, Baroda, for the year 1983-84 alongwith Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(3) A statement (Hindi and English versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (2) above.

[Placed In Library. *See* No. LT-750/85]

(4) A copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 619A of the Companies Act, 1956 :—

(i) Review by the Government on the working of the Rajasthan State Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1981-82.

(ii) Annual Report of the Rajasthan State Agro Industries Corporation Limited, Jaipur, for the year 1981-82 along with Audited Accounts and the comments of the Comptroller and Auditor General thereon.

(5) A statement (Hindi and Engligh versions) showing reasons for delay in laying the papers mentioned at (4) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-751/85]

Notifications under Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI CHANDULAL CHANDRAKAR) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following Notifications (Hindi and English versions) issued under sction 3 of the Agricultural Produce (Grading and Marking) Act, 1937 :—

(1) The Apples Grading and Marking Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G S R 1036 in Gazette of India dated the 15th September, 1984.

(2) The Compounded Asafoetida Grading and Marking Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. G S R 1156 in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1984.

(3) The Gumin Sees Grading and Marking (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. S O 1157 in Gazette of India dated the 20th March, 1984.

(4) The Bristles Grading and Marking (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. S O 1158 in Gazette of India dated the 24th March, 1984.

(5) The Onion Grading and Marking (Amendment) Rules, 1984 published in Notification No. S O 1932 in Gazette of India dated the 29th May, 1984.

[Placed in library. *See* No. LT 752/85]

Notifications under Customs Act, 1962

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY) : I beg to lay on the Table a copy each of the following papers (Hindi and English versions) under section 159 of the Customs Act, 1962 :

(1) G S R 354 (E) and 355 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 11th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to wireless apparatus, accessories and components when imported into India by a licensed amateur radio operator from the whole of the basic, auxiliary and additional duties of customs leviable thereon upto 31st December, 1985.

(2) G S R 358 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum making certain amendment to Notification No. 117-Customs dated the 9th June, 1978 so as to enlarge the list of materials allowed to be imported duty free under Advance Licence Scheme.

G S R 359 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to certain raw materials specified in the Schedule to the notification when imported into India under the import replenishment licences issued in terms of the import policy for 1985-86 from the whole of the basic and additional duties of customs leviable thereon.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-753/85]

(4) G S R 360 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum regarding exemption to materials covered by Notification No. 95/85-Customs dated the 17th March, 1985 when imported under import replenishment licences from the whole of the auxiliary duty of customs leviable thereon.

(5) G S R 361 (E) published in Gazette of India dated the 12th April, 1985 together with an explanatory memorandum rescinding Notification No. 120-Customs dated the 19th June, 1978.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT-753/85]

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

12.00 hrs.

[*English*]

Reported financial crisis faced by cultivators due to sharp fall in prices of coconut and root-wilt disease in the coconut plants

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) : Sir, I call the attention of the Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request him to make a statement thereon :

> "The reported financial crisis faced by the cultivators due to sharp fall in the prices of coconut and the root-wilt disease in the coconut plants and steps taken by the Government in the matter."

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : Sir, Even though coconut is a perennial crop and harvesting is done throughout the year, generally peak season of arrival of coconut in the markets in Kerala is from February to April. Like all other crops, immediate post-harvest season witnesses a decline in prices except in a year of abnormal scarcity. Hon'ble Members are aware that Kerala suffered an unprecedented drought in the year 1982 and the effect of this drought on the coconut crop was felt in 1983-84. As a result, production of coconut declined very substantially to 2595 million nuts in 1983-84 from 3184 million nuts in 1982-83. Correspondingly, in 1983-84, abnormally high prices of coconut, copra and coconut oil were realised and prices continued to rule at high level till December, 1984. From January 1985, prices started declining. The month-end prices of coconut per tnousand in Cochin market were Rs. 3000 in December, 1984. These declined to Rs. 2900 in January, 1985, Rs. 2,150 in February, 1985, Rs. 2,050 in March, 1985 and stood at Rs. 1,950 on 5th April, 1985. In Kozhikode market, the corresponding prices were Rs. 2,550 in December, [984 which went up to Rs. 2,925 in January, 1985, came down to Rs. 2,200 in February, 1985, further declined to Rs. 2,000 in March, 1985 and stood at Rs. 1,900 on 5th April, 1985. However, this decline in prices has taken place from very high levels at which prices ruled in the main markets in Kerala last year. Even after this decline, the ruling prices at present are much higher than those obtained in 1982 and 1983 during the corresponding months. It is to be noted that because of very substantial fall in production in 1983-84 owing to drought, the availability was very much less and prices soared as a result. Hon'ble Members will agree with me that it would not be correct to compare the current prices of coconut with the unusually high prices last year. In fact, the average month-end coconut prices for the period January to March, 1985 are substantially higher than such average for the same period for the preceding three years taken together. The present coconut price levels in this perspective are higher at Alleppy by 52.5%, at Cochin by 33.5% and at Kozhikode by 31%.

2. Root-wilt is a debilitating disease for the coconut palm. This has been in existence in Kerala for many decades. Spread of the disease is, however, confined to eight districts of Kerala. There are no prophylactic or curative measures for this disease. Control measures include certain improved management practices evolved by research for reducing disease intensity and in extreme cases through replacement of the diseased palms. Surveys were conducted on different occasions in the past in Kerala on the incidence of this disease. A survey jointly conducted in 1984 covering eight districts of Kerala by the Central Plantation Crop Research Institute, State Government of Kerala, Coconut Development Board, Centre for Development Studies, Trivendrum, Kerala Agricultural University and Central Plant Protection Station of Government of India at Cochin has revealed that in the surveyed holdings, there has been an increase in the incidence of the disease by 30 per cent in the bearing palms, since the last survey conducted in 1976. Apart from the root-wilt disease, another factor inhibit-

ing productivtiy of coconut in Kerala is the existence of senile palms. Root-wilt disease and senility of palms result in lower production of nuts per palm. A number of corrective measures have been taken up for replacement of disease-affected and senile palms by disease free improved varieties. State Government, Coconut Development Board and Government of India through different schemes have been implementing programmes for increasing production and productivity of coconut in Kerala. Important steps taken through various programmes for increasing production of coconut in Kerala are :—

(a) Production and distribution of disease free seedlings of hybrid and other high yielding varieties ;

(b) Demonstrations to popularise improved cultivation practices ;

(c) Rejuventeion of diseased and unproductive coconut holdings ;

(d) Financial assistance for replacement of diseased and unproductive palms.

12.03 hrs.

[MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

As a result of these efforts, except for the fall in production in 1983-84 due to drought, production of coconut in Kerala has never gone below 3000 million nuts annually for the last five years. In the current year, production is expected to be even higher.

3. Coconut is a very important crop in Kerala and it contributes very substantially to the economy of the State. I would like to assure the Hon'ble Members that Government are fully seized of the situation and all appropriate steps are taken to help the coconut growers in the State.

SHRI T. BASHEER : Sir, I am sorry to say that on the part of the Hon. Minister, there is an attempt to justify the recent decline of the prices of Coconuts. I should say that it is highly objectionable. Sir, Coconut is the main crop in Kerala and it has a very high influence on the economy of the State. About 65% of coconut cultivation done in the country is in Kerala. About 90% of the holdings of coconut cultivable land is below one acre. If one goes to Kerala, he will find that almost everyone will be holding land having coconut cultivation. Sir, coir manufacture and copra crushing are two major traditional industries based on coconut plantation. From this, one can very well imagine that the entire fabric of the rural economy of Kerala is woven around coconut cultivation. The cost of cultivation has gone up very high because of the high cost of inputs and labour. As the Hon. Minister has said, in 1983, in Kerala there was a severe drought and the coconut yield had come down very much. Now coconut cultivation is recovering from the bad effects of the drought that occurred in 1983. But it is quite astonishing that there was a sudden fall in the price of coconut from Rs. 4 to Rs. 2 per nut, that is, 100% fall in the price of coconut. The price of coconut oil has also dwindled down from Rs. 44,000 per quintal to Rs. 20,000 per quintal. So, it is a matter of great anguish and the issue is agitating the minds of the people of Kerala.

Sir, in the statement, the Hon. Minister was trying to justify the reasons for fall in price of coconut. That is quite surprising. He was comparing with the prices of coconut in some earlier years with those of the current year. In his statement, he says as follows :

> "Hon'ble Members will agree with me that it would not be correct to compare the current prices of coconut with the unusually high prices last year."

Sir, over the last many years, the cacocnut cultivators are raising their voice to stabilise the prices as also to get high prices for their cultivation. In this context, I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government or the Government's agencies like Agriculture Prices Commission have conducted any survey on the price of coconut ? If not, the Hon. Minister may kindly state whether the Government or the Agriculture Prices Commission would propose to conduct a study on this and make recommendations in this regard. I would also like to know from the Hon. Minister what measures he proposes to take to stabilise the price of coconut. We are sure that this price of Rs. 4 per nut that we are getting is very reasonable. I have strong objection to the Minister's opinion that this price of coconut is very

high. It is not true. I would also like to know from the Hon. Minister, whether he will propose to fix a support price for coconut, taking into consideration the sudden fall in its price. I would also like to know what steps he is going to take in this regard.

In his statement he has said that there are so many schemes for coconut development. But as my information goes, the Government of Kerala have submitted three schemes for the Central Government's approval. One is a scheme for a package programme that is being implemented as a centrally sponsored scheme with 50 per cent Central assistance. But the Government of India have not accorded sanction for the continuance of this scheme during 1983-84 and 1984-85. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister whether the Government will accord sanction for the scheme from 1983-84 onwards, because in anticipation of the Government of India's sanction, the State Government is implementing the scheme even now.

For the development of coconut cultivation in the State, the State Government have submitted two other schemes. One is a scheme for production and distribution of quality coconut seedlings and the other scheme is for the comprehensive coconut development programme. These two programmes were submitted as centrally sponsored scheme with the Central Government's 50 per cent assistance. Government of India is providing liberal financial assistance to the development of oilseeds grown in other States. But it is not taking much interest in developing coconut cultivation. So, I would like to know whether the Government of India approves this scheme submitted by the State Government of Kerala with 50 per cent financial assistance from the Centre.

Another thing to which I would like to draw your attention is this root-will disease. The Minister has agreed that this disease has been in existence in Kerala for many decades, I repeat, for many decades. I would like to know from the Hon. Minister what our scientists are doing in this regard. In his reply, he has stated that a survey was conducted in 1976 and after eight years in 1984, another survey was conducted. It was found that the disease has increased by 30 per cent during this period. You can very well imagine the situation. Government is expressing helplessness in this regard. The Hon. Minister says that there is no remedy for this disease.

Actually, about 65% of the coconut trees are affected by the root-wilt disease. About 2,50,000 hectares of coconut plantation have been damaged by the disease, causing an estimated loss of about 30 crores of coconuts annually. So, you can imagine the seriousness of this disease.

What are the measures taken ? Actually, the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Research Centre at Kayankulam have been entrusted with this job. What are they doing ? After all these studies and investigations, they have suggested : "You cut away the coconut plants and coconut trees, and plant new ones." That is the remedy they are suggesting. For suggesting this way out, is a scientific organization required ? A scientists' organization is not required. That is the advice given by the scientists in the research institutes.

I would like to know from the Hon. Minister the measures developed by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and the Research Centre at Kayankulam, to prevent the spread of the disease to new areas and to new trees. Have they diagnosed the cause of the disease ? What are their findings; what are the measures they have developed for eradicating this disease ?

Another very important thing is about the price of coconut which depends on the price of coconut oil. There is a strong apprehension that Government is going to import coconut oil in abundance this year. Last year, coconut oil was imported to the tune of 10,000 metric tonnes to meet the shortfall in the country. But the increased production this year by 805 million nuts produces about 1,16,000 metric tonnes of oil additionally. This will definitely meet our requirements. So, any import of coconut oil is not justified in this context. So, will the Hon. Minister come forward to rescue the coconut cultivarors in the state by banning the import of coconut oil this year ? I would like to have specific answers from the Hon. Minister.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : The Hon Member has combined 4 or 5 question into one supplementary. I would like to deal with them one by one.

Firstly, he is not happy with the research or remedial measures which the ICAR or the scientists in our country have been suggesting. He has made a very simplistic statement, saying that the remedy suggested, viz. cutting down the plants, could have been given by anybody, and that scientists are not required. This will amount to saying that if surgery is to be done, a surgeon is not required. Anybody can chop off the limb which is diseased.

This is the most scientific, the most important method of replacing a healthy plant; by uprooting the diseased plant it will not only contain the disease itself but it will also help in containing the spread of disease from one plant to the other. So, the Hon. member wanted to know the various steps suggested by the scientists. A very concentrated effort has been made to introduce and also to suggest various steps to contain this disease. No doubt it has been with us for over a decade, but for this disease, as you know, the scientists are not able to find out exactly the remedy. The disease has now spread to eight districts in Kerala, namely, Trivandrum, Quilon, Pattanamthitta, Ernakulam, Trichur, Idukki, Alleppy, and Kottayam. Also the disease has been observed in the adjoining district of Tamilnadu. It is a very strange kind of disease which affects leaflets and also the colour of the plant; it affects the growth as well as the productivity of the plant. The recent investigation conducted by the Central Plantation Crop Research Institute has revealed the association of Mycoploplasna live organism in the diseased plants. According to the sample survey conducted by the Central Plantation Crop Research Institute jointly with the Government of Kerala, Kerala Agricultural University, Coconut Development Board, Cochin, Centre for Development Studies, Trivandrum and Central Plant Protection Station Cochin, in August, 1984, it had been revealed that the total root-wilt affected area in eight disiricts is around 4 1 lakh hectares. Now, the ICAR has intensified its research programme at the Regional Research Station of the Central Plantations Crop Research Institute at Kayamkulam of which the Hon. member made a mention. They have decided to accelerate the basis of diagnosis and control of root disease. In the meantime, through intensified research, certain practices have been evolved to reduce the disease intensity. The following are the main practices suggested.

Eradication of the root (Wilt) affected palms and replace them by disease free seedlings preferably with the DXT in healthy area. Rehabilitation of the affected plantations, organic recycling, mixed cropping. inter-cropping, addition of plant nutrients, spraying of fungicides and adoption of good management practices including irrigation. For carrying out these remedies, it has not only suggested but the government has come forward with specific assistance. Now, in the 6th Five Year Plan, the scheme for providing financial assistance to the coconut growers for removal of diseased palms was implemented in Kerala and an amount of Rs. 84.75 lakhs has already been released through the Coconut Development Board to be distributed to all the eight districts where the plantation is affected by this disease. As per the scheme, cash assistance was given to the growers for the removal of disease affected trees-Rs, 75 per tree-and 50 per cent subsidy on the cost of seedlings and inputs such as fertilisers and plant protection chemicals. Another scheme for rejuvenation of the diseased and unproductive plantation in Kerala is implemented as centrally sponsored scheme. The scheme envisages the supply of Rs. 4.54 lakh hybrid seedlings and fertilizers at the rate of 50 per cent cost. The total cost of the scheme during the 6th Five Year Plan was Rs. 102.93 lakhs to be shared equally to the Centre and the States.

The Hon. member has expressed apprehension that this scheme will be discontinued. I want to make it clear that this programme will continue even in the 7th Five Year Plan. The Hon. member was very unhappy with me that I have tried to justify the decrease in price. Not at all. I was only trying to compare the present price with the price in the past two or three years.

SHRI T. BASHEER: You have come to the conclusion that this price even is higher.

SHRI BUTA SINGH: No, no. I was only trying to present to the Hon. House that the price is by no way lower than what the price was 3-4 years before and last year the price was abnormally high because as I explained in my statement, there was a very severe drought, the field of plantation had decreased and therefore, the production was very marginal, and therefore whatever the prices went up and we cannot keep the prices at that level time the production is fortunately quite good, and the arrivals are quite good, and the prices have a tendency especially during the bumper season, from February to April, to come down. It is not only for coconut but in the case of almost all the crops that at the time of arrivals the prices have a tendency to fall.

I was trying to state before the Hon. House, by giving statistics that the price sat the moment which are prevailing in the market are by no way lower than the prices what they were in the market three or four years back other than last year. There is always a scope to try to maintain the price, especially for agricultural products. The prices have to be kept at a level where the farmers are not to go and sell their commodities in distress.

Recently we checked with the State Government and we have received a reply from the State Government that the present price in the market is not so low as to bring in distress sale. But I agree with the Hon. Member. This suggestion was discussed with the Hon. Chief Minister when he was here. We are finding it difficult to fix a support price for coconut because it is very difficult to grade the coconut product. because unlike other crops the prices varies from size, to size, whereas in the other crops you can arrive at a general decision by calling it a fair and average quality, here it is difficult. We are quite aware of the situation and the State Government is cooperating with us. This is not the only away of declaring a support price. Support price is only for giving moral support. It is only to ensure that the farmers gets a price and he would not be forced to go in for distress sales. Almost invariably in most of the cases where we have fixed a support price, we find that the market price always goes up, over the level of the support price. Here also, I do not think that it will be possible, but we are trying to find a way to have a support price so that the farmers are not to sell their produce in distress sales.

The Hon. Member himself has mentioned that the price of coconut has gone up in the year 1984, as explained by me, because following the decline of production in 1983 there was a spurt in the price due to the severe drought. However prices started declining in January 1985, in the wake of the expected higher production in 1984-85 and higher market arrivals, the decline of the price of coconut, the price of copra and coconut oil also till the end of March. However, on 5th April—for which as the data are available, the prices of copra and coconut oils are higher than those prevailing at the end of March. I have said that compared to the price during the last three or four years taken together the price that is now available is better.

So far as the import of coconut oil is concerned, the Hon. Member has expressed again his apprehension that the Government of India perhaps is very keen to import coconut oil as a result of which the prices of copra and coconut will fall.

It has been contended in some circles that the decline in the prices of coconut is being precipitated by the import of copra and coconut oil. It is true that the production of coconut and copra in Kerala has faller due to drought, and the prices of those commodities also rose steeply. Therefore, the Government advised the STC which is the canalising agency for the import of edible oil to import some quantity of coconut oil and a quantity of 9,044 tonnes of coconut oil was imported by the STC in April, 1984, to relieve the pressure on the prices of indigenous oil.

This consignment was marketed at Delhi, Bombay, Goa, Bangalore, Ahmedabad, Madras, Coimbatore, Madurai and Hyderabad. Government had not imported coconut oil prior to 1984. Import in April, 1984 was resorted to as one time operation to relieve the pressure on prices of indigenous coconut oil. It is not proposed to import this oil in the near future on a regular basis. I am sure, I have covered all his points.

SHRI SURESH KURUP (Kottayam) : My esteemed colleague, Mr. Basheer, has already described the importance of coconut on the economy of Kerala. It acounts for nearly one-third of the area under cultivation. Nearly 20 lakh families or roughly 40 per cent of our population is engaged in coconut cultivation.

This tree has a place in the day to day life of the people of our State which no other tree has in any other State. You know that our State itself has taken its name from this tree. Kerala means the land of kera i. e. coconut Each and every part i. e. from root to flower of this tree is useful to our people. I am not going to describe each and every part of this tree. Because of its extraordinary usefulness this tree is called Kalpavriksha in Kerala. All over the the country it is know as Kalpavriksha.

What is the state of our Kalpavriksha now ? If the present sorry state of affairs continues, Kerala faces the threat of losing its prime position as the largest coconut producing State in the country. If this disease and this fluctuation in the prices continue, Tamil Nadu will take over this position from Kerala.

Let me first tell about the disease. The first incident of the disease was reported way back in 1882. During the British regime i. e. more than 100 years back the first case was reported in Central Kerala. From Central Kerala it spread over to Southern Kerala and to Northem Kerala. It is not correct to say that only eight districts are affected. All the districts in Kerala are affected by this disease. Some seven lakh hectares of coconut plantations are affected. The survey which was conducted by CPCRI and jointly by the State Department of Agriculture and other organisations, estimated that Kerala incurred a production loss of about Rs. 300 crores annually due to this disease. The CPCRI units at Kasargod and Kayamkulam have been doing research for the last 30 to 35 years. It is a pity that our country which has very many scientific achivements to its credit, could not find a solution to this disease. It is eating into the vitals not only of the economy of the State but the entire country.

I am not blaming the scientists in CPCRI or anybody else, they are very sincere people, but the Government is not providing them sufficient funds. I charge the Central Government that it is not at all serious regarding this disease which affects all the cocount plantations in our State. I think this disease is not found in any other part of the world where coconut cultivation is there. Unfortunately, or fortunately for others, it is found only in Kerala. So, I request the Hon. Minister, through you, Sir, to provide more funds to the CPCRI scientists who are working on this, and to utilise the talents in the agricultural universities of the land. When a similar sort of thing happened to wheat, the talents in the agricultural universities of our country were ably utilised.

Then, Sir, I come to the prices. The Hon. Minister has very cleverly hidden the fact that price fluctuation is due to the import of copra and cononut oil I specefically say that price fluctuations occurr only due to the import of coconut and copra. I have got a Study Paper by the Centre for Development Studies, with which eminent economists like Dr K. N. Raj and Dr. I. S. Gulati are associated. This Study Paper specifically says that the price fluctuations in the case of coconut occur only because of its imports. This import business started only in 1930, that is, at the time of British rule and this price fluctuation started from then onwards. Since then onwards till now, it has been the right demand of the coconut farmers of Kerala, the people of Kerala, to stop these imports. Why this import allowed under Open General Licence, I would like to ask the Minister. Is it because our internal production is far below the requirements for industrial and edible purposes ? No, our country produces sufficient coconut, sufficient copra and sufficient coconut oil for industrial and edible purposes. This is done in order to help the industrialists in this country. This is done in the case of rubber also. Whenever rubber is imported, the Central Government justifies it by saying that sufficient quantity of rubber is not produced in the country. But that is not the case, The very same thing is happening in the case of coconut also. This is the problem of not only the people of Kerala but of the coconut farmer of all the States where coconut cultivation is there in the country. It is there in Tamil Nadu, it is there in Andhra, it is there in Karnataka, and Orissa is also trying to cultivate coconut in the State. So, it is the problem of the farmers all over the country. Is the Government ready to stop these imports ? You cannot blame the people of Kerala, the farmers of Kerala, if they rightly suspect that some pay-offs are there behind the scene by the industrialists and monopolists to the higher-ups in the Government so that they are allowed to import the cononut oil under Open General Licences. I am not going to elaborate it but I would like to know from the Minister whether the Central Government will convene an urgent meeting of the representatives of the State Governments, the scientists working in the field, representatives of the agricultural universities and representatives of the coconut growers in Kerala, to chalk out a research programme to evolve an urgent solution to the problem of this root-wilt disease. I would like to say that the Government should deal with this root-wilt disease on a war-footing, otherwise it is going to destroy the economy of our State. As my esteemed colleague, Shri Basheer has pointed out, the entire fabric of our economy is closely woven round this product. So, both the Central Government and State Governments should treat it on a war footing.

I would like to know from the Minister whether the Government will earmark a fund exclusively for research with the CPCRI units at Katargod and Kayamkulam. It is a pity that no solution has been found in spite of the researches that have been going on for years. You cannot wash your hands off like that.

Another specific question I would like to ask is whether the Government will stop the import of Copra and coconut oil and whether the Government of Kerala has informed the Central Government about the recent price decline i.e. from January 1985 and has made a request to stop the import of copra and coconut oil. If so, the date when the request was made and the reaetion of the Government thereto ? My colleague Shri Basheer has mentioned about the support price. If support price is given, it is welcome, but we do not demand favours from the Government. We want that at least the right demands of the people of Kerala should be met. That right demand of the people of Kerala is whether the Government is ready to put an end to the import of these products. If these imports are stopped, there is no doubt that the farmers of Kerala are going to get right price for their products.

My next question is whether the Minister will make an inquiry about the reasons for importing coconut oil and copra oil in spite of the fact that there is a foriegn exchange constraint and sufficient quantity of copra and coconut oil has been produced in India. I would also like to know whether he would make an inquiry into the allegations of favours shown to the big industries.

These are may questions and I want specific answers to these questions from Hon. Minister.

SHRI BUTA SINGH : Sir, I have already replied to the supplementary made by Shri Basheer that the import of copra and coconut oil is not on OGL. I have also made a categorical statement that the Government has no intention of importing copra and coconut oil in the near future or on a regular basis. I do not know what further measure the Hon. Member is liking us to take.

When the Hon. Member wanted to compare the areas affected by the disease, he remarked that I had said only eight districts were affected by this disease. What I had said was that in eight districts the disease was widespread; in other parts it was marginal and where the disease is marginal, we are trying to isolate the plants so that the disease does not spread. In eight districts it has been established that the disease has been on a large-scale and very concerted efforts are being made by the ICAR as well as the State Government and the Coconut Development Board to see that that the disease does not spread. Spread of similar disease is there in other parts of the world also is there. We are not sitting idle or sleeping over it as has been alleged by the Hon. Member. The spread of this disease is a universal phenomena. In other countries like Philippines and Jamaica such this disease has been there and has been quite severe. But that does not satisfy us and we are making all efforts to see that it does not spread. I am also prepared to go along with the Hon. Member to make our efforts on a war footing also. There is no problem, because we are attending to the disease very seriously. Neither the Government here nor in Kerala is sleeping over the matter. We are trying to see that the disease is attended to.

The Hon. Member wanted to know what amount has been spent on the development of coconut. Under the Centrally sponsored scheme, a package programme on coconut development was taken up in the Sixth Plan and the amount spent on it was Rs. 186.69 lakhs; and under the project of Coconut Development Board, the establishment of hybrid seed gardens in Tamil Nadu and twelve pilot hybrid testing centre in the regional nurseries involved Rs. 12.77 lakhs.

	Rs. lakhs
Project for production of quality coconut seedlings	159
Expansion of area under coconut	125.97
Promotion of primary processing and marketing	24.20
Establishment of coconut technological development centres	10.10
Providing irrigation facilities to coconut growers	29.604

He wanted to know precisely what has been done to arrest the root-wilt disease. As I mentioned in my earlier reply, for providing financial assistance to coconut growers for the removal of root-wilt affected coconut farms in Kerala Rs. 84.75 lakhs were sanctioned and were spent. With your permission, I can give out the other assistance provided under the drought conditions to Kerala for the development of coconut and for protecting the coconut growers. It is not correct if we have to say that much attention has not been paid or sufficient resources have not been made available. There is always scope to improve upon what has been done and I have said already in the main reply to the question by Shri Basheer that the Government of India proposes to continue these projects even in the Seventh Five-Year Plan.

The Hon. Member wanted to know the reaction of his State Government. I have a message from the State Government dated 28th March, in which they have mentioned that the State Government has all along held the view that the coconut oil imports should be abolished, which I have replied to.

When compared to the price that prevailed during the last quarter of 1984, the above price is very low, but this is in fact a better price when compared to the pre-drought period in 1982. The average price for the month of January and February 1982 was Rs. 113.36 and Rs. 117.49 per hundred respectively. The cost of production of 100 coconuts in a scientifically cultivated farm is Rs. 52 and in other places it will come to Rs. 125/-. On this basis also it can be seen that the price trend is even now attractive. This is what I was trying to emphasise when I was replying to Shri Basheer's question. So, Sir, we are constantly in touch with the State Government, I am prepared to agree to the suggestion made by the Hon. Members that we should convene an urgent meeting of all concerned, whether it is the Coconut Development Board or the State Governments, the Central Government and the ICAR, to highlight the importance of this disease as well as the decreasing trend in the productivity of coconut plantation in our country. It is a very important question and I agree with the Hon. Member's sentiments that have been expressed here. So far as coconut is concerned, it is not only a highly valued crop in Kerala, but it helps the national economy, it helps the people all over the country. We must give the utmost attention to the production and productivity of coconut. The Government of India is quite aware, and we will give full attention to the betterment of the growers in the coconut industry.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore): Sir, I am very grateful to the Hon. Speaker that he has allowed this very important Calling Attention motion to be discussed in the House.

As you know, Sir, this coconut is named as *Kalpavriksha* from which we can get everything. I will only put questions because you will not allow me to go into details.

Sir, since independence we have spent more than Rs. 100 crores for the development of coconut. It was decided that 20 lakhs hectares of land of coconut growers would be brought under scientific management programme. What is the achievement on this issue ? If we can achieve the target, that is all right. If not, what is the reason and how to achieve our targeted numbers ?

The projected production is about 6,750 million nuts by the end of the sixth Plan. What is the achievement ? If we could not achieve the target, what are the reasons for it ?

Though the coconut production has been increased, the yield has not increased. The figure shows that the average yield was 5,785 nuts per hectare. Now it has come down to 5,344 nuts per hectare per annum. I would like to know the reason for the decrease in yield. Though the production in 1974-75 was about 54.61 millions, it has come down now in terms of productivity, in the sense, when the areas increased, the production increased. But the yield per hectare did not increase. Apart from the drought conditions, may I know due to complex diseases like root wilt, stem bleeding etc., the production has come down ? If so, what action has the Government taken to check such diseases and pest attacks ?

My Hon. colleague has asked so many questions. I would like to put one or two questions. The farmers who grow coconut have very small holdings and many of them grow in their homestead lands. So, it is beyond their reach to use costly fertilizers, pesticides and the micro nutrients. The researches and the scientists prescribe spray on the coconut trees. But you will be knowing that the coconut plants are as tall as 100 feet or more than that. So, it is beyond their reach to spary such tall coconut plants. So, the aerial spray should be done. I would like to know in how many cases they have done aerial spraying to check pest attack and other diseases ?

Though the coconut is produced throughout the year, the production pattern is highly seasonally characterised. About 2/3rd of the production is collected during the period of January to June and the other 1/3rd is collected in the 2nd half of the year. Generally, coconut is marketed for three purposes :

(a) 35% as tender nuts;

(b) 55% for domestic and religious purposes;

(c) 8% for copra and oil purposes.

You will be astonished to know that this marketing is done mainly through intermediaries, village merchants, contractors, copra-makers, commission-agents oil millers, dealers and retaiters in the State. In case of inter-State trade, it passes on from Commission-agents to oil millers in up country. 82% of marketable surplus is marketed through middlemen as most of the farmers are of the categories of small and marginal. They cannot afford to take their coconuts to the cooperatives or other millers etc. Due to the absence of strong cooperative movement and the Government agency does not like to enter into the market, the farmers are suffering. May I know from the Government what is the action taken in this regard ? The gap between the production achieved in research farm and in well managed private farm and the average yield of a typical area can be bridged by concentrated efforts by development, extension and research agencies, by putting more emphasis on hybrid, disease resistant and dwarf varieties. May I know what action was taken to cover more areas by these varieties ?

There has been a need for research on rapid propagation techniques and vegetative propagation standardised in oil palm with a view to utilising more effectively the basic natural resources, like solar energy, soil and water, investigations into the scientific principles and techniques of raising inter and mixed crops specially in small farms. Mixed farming trials have given a good result. The net profit for 1.3 hectare in coconut is Rs. 2,500 per year. But in multi-storeyed cropping consisting of coconut, cocoa, pepper and pineapple it is around Rs. 16,000 under irrigation facilities. Under rain-fed condition, ginger and coconut gives Rs. 14,000 and in the case of tubers and bananas, the net income is Rs. 8,000 per hectare per annum.

May I, therefore, know the action taken by the Government in regard to having multi storyed cropping and mixed cropping patterns and the areas covered under such cropping patterns ? May I also know what measures are taken by other coconut producing countries, like Ceylon, Phillipines, West Africa, and West Indies to eradicate such diseases ? May I know from the Hon. Minister whether it is a fact that these root-wilt diseases are communicated from those countries and, if so, whether these root-wilt diseases spread from palm to palm and from area to area ? If that is so, I want to know the action taken by the Government on both these fronts.

The Directorate of the Coconut Development Board once suggested that a proper development of coconut as an oilseeds crop can help tide over the present crisis caused by the short supply of vegetable oils in the country. This can only be possible through area expansion, scientific management of existing holdings and adoption of post-harvest processing technology by which the annual production of coconut oil will increase by 5 lakh tonnes. May I know what action has been taken by the Government in this regard ?

Due to marginal rise in area under coconut, the Coconut Development Board has prepared a project for expansion of area. The Centre has fixed an outlay of Rs. 8 crores in the Sixth Plan. The Programme was to be implemented by the State Governments, the Coconut Development Board and the Agricultural Refinance Development Corporation. Under this scheme, the Board has suggested a project for coconut plantation on canal embankments in Orissa. What is the progress made in this regard ?

By the end of 1988-89, it was proposed to plant 3 lakh coconut seedlings on canal embankments in Orissa. What is the progress made in this regard ?

13.00 hrs.

The CPCRI has developed a technology which makes the development of new plantlets possible from tender coconut leaf segments instead of relying on the traditional method of seed propagation. This would help the growth of disease free and high-yielding palms (*Interruptions*).

I would like to know whether this method has been tried on commercial scale and, if so, where and the result of it.

I must congratulate the scientists of our country and the Agriculture Ministry that they succeeded in producing coconut plantlets through tissue culture technique. This is the first time in the world that this is done, though in the United Kingdom they have done it once but it was from root callus culture and not from the leaves but ultimately it could not survive. (*Interruptions*)

I would like to know whether it is a fact that the Union Government has decided to fix up the floor price of coconuts like sugar cane. If so, how will the rate of coconut be fixed up ? The sugarcane price is fixed on weight but the coconut price is fixed on the number and size of the coconut. So, I would like to know how the price of coconut can be fixed.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : Sir, the Hon. Member has made very good speech on the coconut crop. The Hon. Member started by saying that we have not been able to make progress so far as the production of coconut is concerned.

The Hon. Member tried to show as if the production both at All India level and in the State of Kerala has declined.

I will present a few figures to enlighten the Hon. Members.

From 1979-80, the All India figure was 5,636 million nuts whereas Kerala contributed 3,032 million nuts and over the years, it has been picking up.

The All India production of coconuts started with 5,600 million nuts in 1979-80.

In 1980-81, the All India production was 5,700 million nuts.

In 1981-82, the All India figure came down a little.

In Kerala, the drought started in 1982-83 and its production fell down and, as a result, the price went up. If you compare with the price of last year, the price at the moment in Kerala is much lower. The price on an average in the last three or four years was also not bad. Production-wise also, even though the production in Kerala came down in 1983-84 but at the All India level, the production has picked up in 1983-84 as compared to years previous to 1982-83. The production in Kerala has come down from 3,184 million nuts to 2,695 million nuts. This is because in the previous year, there was a severe drought in Kerala and this year we are expecting the crop in Kerala to be quite good and, I am sure, the over-all picture so far as

All India is concerned, the production will be good.

We have yet to collect the statistics. They will show that the production is higher than what it was last year.

In the productivity of coconuts per hectare, Kerala has been producing above 4,500 million nuts during the last five years except for the year, 1983-84 when it declined to around 4,000 nuts. The productivity has heen picking up year after year. The production in Kerala is lower than the All India average of over 5,000 nuts. Coconut is grown in Tamil Nadu and Karnataka also; there the incidence of disease is less and it is also managed in a better way; therefore, the yields are higher in these two States. If we compare the coconut production in our country with that in other countries, it will be seen that ours is not very bad : in Philippines the yield of coconuts per hectare is 4804; in Indonesia 4015; in India 5109; in Sri Lanka 3651; in Malaysia 3541; and in Thailand 2727. It will be seen that our country, as compared to other countries, is quite favourably placed.

So far as comparison between vegetable oil, sugarcane and coconut is concerned, I am sorry at the moment I do not have the figures to compare the prices of these products, but I want to assure the House that we are quite aware of the need to increase the production as well as productivity of the coconut crop, we are quite concerned about it and we are in touch with the State Governments of Orissa, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, etc. I agree with the Hon. Member that in Kerala this crop is the most important crop. It is very important not only for those States which are growing it but for the national economy. We are giving our utmost attention to increase the production.

About the reasons for low productivity in Kerala, one need not go into detail; the reasons are overcrowding of existing gardens, non-attainment of full bearing of under-planted and replanted gardens due to long juvenile phase of the palms, non-removal of senile and unproductive palms and lack of regular replanting, non-adoption of recommended package of practices by majority of farmers, planting of coconut in areas that are quite unsuitable for the crop and in marginal lands, and so on and so forth.

The Hon. Member made a point that aerial spraying should be resorted to. I am told that this crop is such that it is grown in the households; the farmers live in coconut orchards or fields and, therefore, it is difficult to under take that kind of spraying. But whatever local pesticide or fungicide is required, through the ground level, it is being attended to by the extension services. I will discuss the matter with the scientists whether it is possible or it is being done elsewhere in the world.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN (Cannanore) : Sir, due to short of time, I do not want to elaborate on the various points. The Hon. Members who spoke before me have explained the problems faced by the cultivators in Kerala and other States.

It is gratifying to note that the Hon. Minister for Agriculture has made a very important policy statement on the floor of the House; he has made a statement that the Government has decided once and for all to put a ban on the import of coconut oil. I am sure that the people of Kerala will receive this news with great happiness.

As many of my Hon. friends have explained, the coconut palm occupies a significant place in the daily life of the people of Kerala which perhaps no other tree enjoys in any other part of the country.

For Kerala, the coconut tree is virtually the '*Kalpa Vriksha*', the mythical tree which is capable of meeting all the needs of man. There is hardly any household in Kerala which does not have a coconut palm. The coconut palm takes about 6 to 7 years to mature and yield.

Kerala derives 30% of its agricultural income from coconut alone and about 10 million people directly or indirectly depend on its cultivation for their livelihood. More than 1 million people are engaged in coconut-based industries like coir manufacturing, copra processing and oil milling. The average value of coconut production is around Rs. 4500 million and the export earning of coir and coir products is around Rs. 190 million. Interstate trade in coconut amounts to Rs. 1250 million annually.

Coconut is a perennial crop. Once an organised development is made in this sector, its impact will remain undisturbed for quite a long period.

I do not want to prolong. You know Sir, our coconut cultivation is badly affected by two dreaded diseases, namely, the root-wilt and rot-leaf diseases; I know and I feel the Government of India did not take these diseases seriously. This morning I met a senior member of the House and I was discussing about the steep fall in the prices of coconut. He just mentioned that when there was a disease affecting apple crop some 10 years ago, the then Hon. Minister for Agriculture made a statement on the floor of the House stating that the disease affecting the apple crop will be considered as a national disease and the government will take very strong measures to combat that disease. I respectfnlly ask the Hon Minister why he cannot come forward and make such a statement that these diseases affecting coconut plantations will also be considered as national diseases. Will remedical measures be taken to fight them on a war footing ?

The Hon Minister has made a statement regarding productivity of coconut in my State. I strongly disagree with the Minister. Not only Kerala has a lower productivity but productivity per palm is the lowest in Kerala. It is about 30 nuts as against 41 in Tamilnadu and 57 in Keranataka and 44 in Laccadives.

Kerala produces nearly 3.42 lakhs tonnes of copra, i.e. 90% of the all India production only half of this quantity is crushed within the State. Due to lack of better crushing facilities the rest is exported to other State. All the industries based on the coconut are located in other States. The millers and buyers of copra in Bombay market are actually controlling the market. The price of coconut oil till recently was decided by monopoly houses and big businessmen of Bombay and Ahmedabad.

The potential of this cash crop if not properly and fully exploited due to the failure on the part of the policy-makers to ensure a stable and remunerative price to coconut growers in India. This crop is by and large grown under neglect without proper application of fertilisers, irrigation and plant protection measures. As a result of this the productivity becomes much lower.

In 1982-83 the price per coconut was Rs. 4 in Kerala. Now it has crashed to Rs. 1. 50 to Rs. 2 per nut....

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : All this has been explained by the other members. It is a repetition. Please put your question.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : We, the poor people of Kerala, do not have a strong lobby like the sugar lobby or the jute lobby or the cotton lobby. The coconut cultivation in Kerala is mostly done by poor and marginal farmers. about 80% of them are having a land holding of below 1 hectare.

Sir, concessions must be given to cultivators on the pattern of those for crash crops like cardamom, rubber and tea. As Mr. Suresh Kurup pointed out the first case of root wilt disease was noticed in 1882. It is regrettable to note that after over a century the scientists have failed to find out the root cause for the root wilt disease and its prevention.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Please put pointed question rather than repeating what has already been mentioned.

SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : It is my humble submission that a high level study team comprising of scientists and experts should visit Kerala and make an on the spot assessment of the quantum of the loss caused to the farmers due to the steep fall in prices of coconut. They should also go into the gravity of the damage caused to the farmers by the root wilt and rot leaf diseases and recommend compensation to those who were badly affected.

Sir, I submit that the Coconut Board set up by the Central Government to safeguard the overall interest of the coconut cultivation has not fully justified its very existence and it is high time that Government should revamp the already defunct board to make it an effective instrument for the promotion of coconut cultivation and the well being of the millions of coconut farmers in the country.

As in the case of rubber and cardamom and other foreign exchange earning crops more dedicated field officers capable of taking the most advanced scientific knowledge to the door steps of the poor farmers should be sent there.

Sir, I submit that Kerala is being neglected in all fields—namely, railways, industry, etc. I request the Hon. Minister to pay his kind attention to the difficulties faced by the farmers and poor peasants in Kerala. With these word, I conclude.

THE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI BUTA SINGH) : Sir, most of the aspects highlighted by the Hon. Member have already been made earlier and I have given reply to those queries. I agree to the suggestion made by the Hon. Member and we will have a meeting of all concerned from the State who are growing coconut and sit with ICAR and other agencies in cluding Coconut Development Board to see how best we can attend to these diseases which are there for centuries. It is no use cursing our scientists who have been doing a good job and helping the growers. There is always scope to do better and we will try to attend to the problems of coconut growers.

Sir, it is not fair to say that Kerala is being neglected. Perhaps there is not much time for me to highlight the various achievements made by Kerala under the 20-point programme in various sectors of rural development. Kerala has done so well that we are proud of Kerala and its people and we will continue to pay our attention to the problems of the Kerala people.

13.19 hrs.

[*English*]

BUSINESS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sixth Report

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI H. K. L. BHAGAT) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I beg to present the Sixth Report of the Business Advisory Committee.

MATTERS UNDER RULE 377

[*Translation*]

(i) Release of Central Government share for speedy construction of road bridge over the river Ghagra in district Deoria (U.P.)

SHRI RAM NAGINA MISHRA (Salempur) : Mr. Depury Speaker, Sir, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards the urgent need to take immediate steps for speedy construction of a road bridge on the river Ghagra at Bhagalpur in District Deoria, Uttar Pradesh.

I would like to submit in this connection that this bridge would connect Deoria and Balia districts and would provide an important link for those travelling between U.P. and Bihar. Keeping in view the importance of this bridge, the then Union Minister of Shipping and Transport had accorded his approval for the construction of this bridge nine years back. All the formalities had also been completed. The Central Government had provided a sum of nine lakhs of rupees to the State Government for undertaking a survey. But it is a matter of great surprise that despite approval of this bridge so many years back, it has not been constructed so far. As a result, there is a lot of frustration among the people of the area. From this, it is evident that there is gross neglect of our district.

The Cabinet of the U.P. Government has also passed a resolution at their meeting that this bridge should be constructed on a priority basis. The expenditure on the construction of this bridge would be shared by the Central Government and the State Government equally. The Government of India have not yet given their approval to grant their share to the State Government and as a result this important project is being delayed.

I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister to expedite the sanction the Central grant for the construction of this bridge so that the construction of this bridge could start without further delay.

(ii) Need to provide cotton yarn at reasonable rates to the weavers of district Barabanki (U.P.)

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAVAT (Barabanki) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, the number of weavers in the country is very large and all the weavers are dependent on the handloom industry alone. Government have started many good schemes for the uplift of the weavers. I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards the pitiable condition of the weavers in District Barabanki of U.P., who are facing starvation at present. There are about 80,000 weavers in the district, but cotton yarn is not available to them even at higher prices. Their condition has worsened due to increase in the price of cotton yarn by Rs. 30/- per bundle. There is no separate bank to extent financial help to the weavers. Local spinning mills are also hesitating in providing cotton yarn to them in retail. I would, therefore, request the Government that cotton yarn should be made available to the weavers in District Barabanki at reasonable prices and a separate bank should be opened to provide loans to them so that the condition of these poor weavers could be improved.

(iii) Central Aid to Madhya Pradesh Government for providing drinking water in Tikamgrah, District Chattarpur, M.P.

SHRIMATI VIDYAWATI CHATURVEDI (Khajuraho) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is acute shortage of drinking water in Teekamgarh, District Chattarpur in Madhya Pradesh. Due to scarty rains, the situation has worsened. Since full requirement of water is not available in villages and towns even at present, the situation is likely to grow even worse in the coming months.

Therefore, the Centre should extend more financial assistance to the State Government in order to provide more tube wells as also to deeper the wells so that the problem of water shortage could be solved at the earliest.

(iv) Streamlining the implementation of Self-Employment Guarantee Scheme

SHRI HARISH RAWAT (Almora) : Mr: Deputy Speaker, Sir, The Self-Employment Guarantee Scheme was initiated by Government to provide help to the unemployed youths in achieving self-employment. This scheme has created a feeling among the employed youth that they would be self-employed with the help of the Government and can make their contribution in the task of nation-building.

Under this scheme, the beneficiaries are selected by a committee at the district level on the basis of the schemes submitted by them. After their selection, the candidates get bank loans of Rs. 25000/- from various banks. Thereafter the beneficiary starts his own business, but under this scheme, generally those candidates are being selected one of the members of whose family already has an industry or big business. The persons having the resources to appease the influential persons or the concerned authorities are getting the benefit at the cost of the needy candidates. Moreover, adequate loans are not being made available for the selected p-ojects. It has come to notice that the candidates selected by the Bank Committee are deprived of loans on one pretext or the other. In my constituency, the target of providing loans to the youths has not been achieved despite the recommendations of the Selection Committee. I would, therefore, like to give the following suggestions :

(1) Under this scheme at least one thousand youths should be provided with bank loans in each district. It should be a statutory obligation on the part of the Banks to the amount of loan recommended by the Committee to selected candidates.

(2) The maximum limit of loan should be raised from Rs. 25,000/- to 50,000/-.

(3) There should be no condition of guarantor for loans. A direction to this effect should be issued to the banks.

[*English*]

(v) Pollution of Ganga at Hardwar due to discharge by BHEL and IDPL etc. and need for effective remedial steps.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore):

Sir, more than two thousand kilometers long holy river Ganga has now become highly polluted by the wanton discharge of waste which plays havoc with health, agriculture and marine life. The big public sector industries like BHEL and IDPL at Hardwar along with almost all industries at Varanasi and more than 70% industries in and around Càlcutta, Patna and other cities and towns located on the banks of river Ganga are discharging their untreated effluents into this river which damage the crops, poison the fish and spread epidemic to the millions of users. Besides, half burnt dead bodies and carcases of animals are thrown into this river in thousands everyday. Lakhs of cows, buffaloes and other cattle take their bath in this river which is another factor for pollution of the holy Ganga water. The industries both small and big are using this holy river as a sewer line.

The entire nation is very grateful on the decision of the present Government under the stewardship of the Prime Minister Shri Rajiv Gandhi for the taking timely action for making this river free from pollution.

I would, therefore, request the Ministry for Environment to take expeditious steps for providing required funds for the purpose to complete it by end of 7th Five Year Plan and save millions and millions of users from various diseases. Crops over millions of hectares will also be saved from ruin every year.

(vi) Need for sanctioning the project by the Centre for construction of a road from Itchapuram to Thada (A.P.)

SHRI P. PENCHALLIAH (Nellore) : Along the east coast there is only the grand trunk road passing through the Southern region. During the monsoons, a series of cyclones hit this road and make it very accident prone. Since this happens to be the only road in this entire region, it is very much congested. Many accidents take place round the year. Since the Buckingham Canal is sand casted because of the frequent cyclones, the entire transportation which was being carried on through the canal is now being diverted to this road making it still more congested.

To ease the pressure on this trunk road, a new link road from Itchapuram in Srikakulam district to Thada in Nellore district in Andhra Pradesh was suggested. Proposals were submitted during 1981-82 by Government of Andhra Pradesh to Government of India to take up the construction work of this important link road.

This issue was raised in Parliament several times. But so far no decision has been taken by the Government for constructing this vital link road.

Itchapuram Thada Road is important not only because it eases the unberable congestion of traffic, both passengers and goods, it is important also because it serves the needs of our Defience for purposes of supervision by Coast Guard.

Therefore, I request the Ministry of Shipping and Transport for sanctioning and taking up of the construction work of Itchapuram-Thada Road in Andhra Pradesh.

(vii) Threatened token strike by R.M.S. and M.M.S. Employees' Union on 6th June 1985

SHRI ANANDA PATHA (Darjeeling) : Posts and Telegraphs Administration has decided to abolish the Rail Mail Service which had an age old reputation for efficiency in quickest and safest delivery of postal articles. As a first step, it has abolished the Sorting Sections and introduced bulk consignments of accountable articles causing insecurity in safe delivery of such artilces besides creating surplus in staff strength blocking absorption of RTPs in permanent establishment and future recruitment. The Department is also doing away with checking work by abolishing SROs and thus reducing promotional prospects of the employees and also reducing the posts of checkers in disregard of the recommendation of the Third Pay Commission. The department is also contemplating to enforce a greater outturn of work setting aside the findings of Bewder Tarapada and Marathe Time Test.

In protest against this policy, the All India RMS and MMS Employees Union have decided to organise one day's token strike all over India on 6th June 1985.

I call upon the Government to discuss the issue with the Union concerned before implementing their decision.

(viii) Installation of T.V. Station Birpur, Bihar.

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Birpur is a very important place on Indo-Nepal broder. The people of Birpur (Saharsa) and of neighbouring areas have been demanding the installation of a TV Station here.

It is really unfortunate that whereas smaller and less important places in the country have been provided with TV Station, Birpur's case has always been ignored.

If a TV station is set up at Birpur, it will have a very healthy effect on Indo-Nepal relations since a large number of Nepalese population who live on the other side of the border, will like to see Indian programmes. It is, therefore, requested that the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting may set up a TV station at Birpur as early as possible.

13.33. hrs.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL), 1985-86—*Contd.*

[*English*]

Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies — *Contd.*

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : We will now take up discussion on Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA (Balasore) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies and I also oppose all the cut motions moved in this House. I must congratulate our Hon. Minister for Food and Supplies for bringing about a decline in the Wholesale Price Index to the extent of 4.1 per cent by August 1984 and also a further decline to the tune of 7.5 per cent by December 1984. There was also a fall of about 5.1 per cent, compared to the index a year ago. The index for wheat in December 1984 was lower by 3.8 per cent compared to that in the corresponding period of the previous year. It was possible due to the record production of wheat, rice and other cereals and also because of easy open-market availability. I must congratulate the present Minister for Food and Civil Supplies because he was the then Agriculture Minister and during his time only, the food production could be improved.

I am grateful to our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Ji that he has given the portfolio of Food and Civil Supplies to the present Minister perhaps after taking into account the fact that he as the Minister of Agriculture. had produced sufficient foodgrains for the country, making it self-sufficient in food. In his present capacity, he can distribute the foodgrains so produced, in a proper manner to our people.

The Ministry also deserves praise for bringing about a record procurement of 17.7 million foodgrains, surpassing the previous figure of 15.51 million tonnes of foodgrains procured from the 1982-83 crop. As on 16th March 1985, a quantity of 8.5 million tonnes of rice could be procured, which is an all-time high. Similarly, the procurement of wheat from the 1983-84 crop has touched a new high at 9.30 million tonnes, surpassing the earlier record of 8.29 million tonnes out of the 1982-83 crop.

The covered storage capacity available with the FCI stood at 9.26 million tonnes, which is not adequate to store the foodgrains. Even though the general warehousing facilities are provided to some extent, they are not adequate to cover the entire foodgrains produced. I would, therefore, request the Hon. Minister to look to this aspect on a priority basis, so that more general warehousing facilities are made available to the growers.

Even though 17 Save grain Teams operated to motivate farmers to adopt scientific storage godown practices, and to educate the farmers on this issue, they have had very little impact on the farmers in our country side. The Hon. Minister may kindly make necessary arrangements by which the farmers may have their own storage godowns, by taking loans from the nationalized and cooperative banks at a lesser rate of interest. Marginal and small farmers need to be given loans for their own storage godowns, at a subsidised rate. At least 25% of these loans may be sanctioned to the farmers in the form of a subsidy. This will help the farmers not to dispose of the produce at least those which are not perishable but to store them for some days, so that they may not have to sell them at less than the support prices fixed by Government.

I must congratulate the Hon. Minister for the fact that the food and vegetable processing industries are gaining momentum. But many of them are running at loss. So, the Hon. Minister may kindly look into that aspect. It is true that due to the drought condition in sugarcane-growing areas, the production of sugar cane has come down to 59.16 lakh tonnes, as against 82.32 lakh tonnes in the year 1982-83. But with much regret I would like to mention that the sugar content of the imported sugar from Brazil is much less which I had noticed in the 1st week of March when I was in Bhubaneswar. The sugar bought from Brazil was distributed through the fair price shops. Truely speaking, I myself felt about it. Of course, the Hon. Minister has contradicted it today morning in reply to a supplementary question. I would only request him to send that sugar for examination in a laboratory and see which is correct, because I had contacted on the very day the Regional Manager of the FCI at Bhubaneswar. I have also told him to send that sugar for laboratory test. It has only one-third of the sugar content of our indigenous sugar.

I would like to congratulate the Hon. Minister for increasing the price of paddy and rice in the year 1984-85 and asking the State Government to procure paddy, rice and wheat at least at the support price announced by the Government of India. In this connection I would like to suggest that the price of all foodgrains should be fixed before the cultivation starts, before the year of the cultivation starts, the price should be fixed and announced so that the farmers may take a decision as to how much area of their land, will be covered by that particular crop.

The government is providing many hundred crores as subsidy to the FCI to meet the difference between the procurement price and issue price. In the year 1983-84, Rs. 835 crores was provided as subsidy to the FCI on foodgrains transaction; and also in 1984-85, Rs. 850 crores have been provided and for the current year 1985-86, Rs. 11 crores are provided. But what is happening is that the foodgrains especially wheat and rice are supplied to the retail centres through their storage agents and they are all inferior quality; I must not say all but many of those are of inferior quality; and in almost all commodities, whether rice or wheat or sugar, there is a shortage ranging from one kg to 3 and 4 kg; and ultimately the poor retailers and the consumers who are mainly from down-trodden masses are the sufferers. In this connection, I would like to point out the findings of the study undertaken by the Programme Evaluation Organisation of the Planning Commission. It says that the deficiencies of the public distribution system were due to certain inadequacies in its operational aspects and lack of coordination. Irregular supplies and poor quality of products were identified as major reasons for people not drawing ration regularly.

13.44 hrs.

[SHRI SOMNATH RATH *in the chair*]

This is a very alarming situation. I would draw the attention of the Hon. Minister and request him to look to it personally and check this shortage in weights of foodgrains supplied by the F.C.I. may not be there and the quality is as per the certified items.

The Committee has suggested several steps to improve the public distribution system including a dual price formula, regular supply of items, improvement in quality of selling items, improvement in quality also by selling items in sealed bags instead of loose and having advance planning for storage and movement of goods.

The Committee in their findings also stated that necessary steps should be taken to ensure that the weighing of commodities at the issue points is fair and correct.

Before concluding, as you are already ringing the bell, I would mention one more point.

MR. CHAIRMAN: You have taken

fifteen minutes, five minutes more than allotted.

AN HON. MEMBER : Because Orissa is a backward State.

SHRI CHINTAMANI JENA : I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the ban on starting the mini flour mills in the rural areas. In States like Orissa where the foodgrains like wheat are grown in a large scale, especially in the districts which have been declared as 'no industry' districts like Balasore if there are some entrepreneurs who come forward to start these mini flour mills that ban order should be lifted from those places in 'No Industry' district. In addition to it, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the fact that in Orissa they are not supplying cement properly. I am not going to give the figures because you are not allowing me more time. The State Government, have repeatedly written to the Hon. Minister, but the cement of the required quantity is not provided to the State by the Centre and all the development works in the States have been hampered to a large extent.

With these words I conclude.

[*Translation*]

SHRI SYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN (Murshidabad) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, The house is discussing the demands for grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies. My friends from the other side have said that food production has increased. Yes, It is correct that food production has increased now in comparison to the production earlier but it has not increased to the desired extent. You are not to blame for this. You would say that it is the responsibility of the Ministry of Agriculture. It is your responsibility to have co-ordination with the Ministry of Railways and the Ministry of Petroleum. You have not taken the steps which you should have taken for increasing the food production. There should have been radical land reforms. As a matter of fact, if there is proper utilisation of land, and water, fertilisers and remunerative prices are assured to the farmers, the food production would certainly increase. When we travel from Delhi to Calcutta, we find that thousands of hectares of land on both sides of railway line are lying uncultivated for want of irrigation facilities.

It is a fact that you have not been able to increase the food production in the country to the desired extent. We agree that food production has increased and side by side the procurement of foodgrains has also increased. In addition to it you should also monitor the activities of your Ministry after the procurement of foodgrains. I would like to place before you the figures of last year. I have with me a newspaper cutting which says that 30,000 bags of paddy were destroyed in Ludhiana. The main reason for this loss is the defective system of storage of foodgrains under "cover and bin" system which has not been changed till date. It has also been mentioned in the report that this year 3 million tonnes of wheat would have to be stored under camp system. If the procurement and storage work is handed over to the Pahchayat's and necessary funds are provided to them, they ean handle the storage of foodgrains in a better way than F.C.I.

F.C.I. procures foodgrains in my disrict also. According to a report, godowns of F.C.I. at Behrampur and Dayanagar are in dilapidated codition and even then the foodgrains are being stored there. As a result the foodgrains are damaged and you have to bear a hunge loss. There are thousands of godowns throughout the country, in which the foodgrains are still being stored, though these godowns are in a dilapidated condition. There is mention about this in your report also. A photo deputing the "Camp system" has been shown in this report. If you look at the photo carefully, you will find that the foodgrains are lying in the open and they are not being fully protected. I would, therfore like to suggest that first of all good storage facilities should be provided for storage of foodgrans.

So far as the question of giving remunerative prices to the farmers is concerned you have fixed the price of the common variety of paddy at Rs. 137 per quintal which means that your support price will be Rs. 137. If I say something here about West Bengal, your only reply will be that the State is always making some demand. But it is a fact that the procurement in West

Bengal this year is not much and this is became the Jute growers have been given only Rs. 100 or Rs. 1,200 per quintal as procurement price. The farmers do not want to switch over to paddy from Jute and when the production of paddy will fall, so will your procurement. Still, West Bengal gives you maximum quantity of Jute and you should see to it that it gets the maximum quantity of rice. West Bengal also gives tea, and therefore, you should give full attention to it.

So far as the question of sugarcane growers is concerned, it is true that the production of sugar has declined a little this year. If you take into consideration the support price which cane growers get, it is only Rs. 14 per quintal, whereas firewood costs more than Rs. 40 per quintal. You have fixed a price of only Rs. 14 per quintal for the crop which the farmer raises by putting in hard work. This years's report is that the mill owners owe a huge amount of arrears to the farmers.

If we are to save sugarcane from being burnt this year in U.P., attention will have to be paid to this question. Unless you set matters right the farmer will not get a remunerative price and this present situation will persist. One year the production will go up but it will decline in the subsequent year. If the farmers get a higher price this year, the production goes up the next year, but when the production goes up, he does not get a reasonable price.

About edible oils, I want to say that at present the shortage of edible oils stands at 15 lakh tonnes. You have not paid attention to the production of edible oil so far and at the same time you have improved animal fallow which is used by the factories on a large scale. I do not know and what varieties were imported any from which countries. But the people continued to say that it beef fallow. Since you have stopped its import, it has resulted in shortage of edible oil. You have also cut the quota of my state will have to pay attention to the supply of edible oil and pulses.

At the same time, you should also pay attention to the production of barley. Perhaps, after five years you will not get barley. The production of barley is successively declining every year. The farmer is not getting his remmunerative price.

One of the points in your 20-Point Programme is to open a fare price shop in each village. You can yourself see that you have raised the price of rationed sugar, rice and wheat many times ever since your 20-Point Programme came into operation. You have raised the price of sugar, wheat and rice, but your promise of opening a fair price shop in each village has not yet been fullfilled. This is not an allegation, but your party Member, Shri Ram Pyare Panika had himself said the day before yesterday that the people in that area had to go for a distance of 2 to 3 miles to fetch rations. The programme of opening fair price shops in each village has not succeeded so far. Instead of your providing foodgrains at cheap rates, the prices are increasing day by day. If you do not provide rubsidy on foodgrains, it will be very difficult for the rural poor to pull on.

There is yet another point in the 20-Point Programme which relates to the generation of employment for the rural people. You say that the Janata Government made a mess of everything during its rule that is correct. But some work was done under the Food for Work Programme' during the Janata rule, the man-days had increased and due to despatch of wheat from the central pool, the prices went up. What steps did you take after this price-rise ? You talked about employment generation, but if you go through your own report you will find that you provided foodgrains under E.G.S., F.W., N.R.E.P., R.L.E.G.P. In 1981 it was 2.45 lakh tonnes; in 1982 it was 71,000 tonnes; in 1983 1.01 lakh tonnes and in 1984 only 96,000 tonnes.

14.00 hrs.

You had started the employment generation programme for the rural landless labourers and farmers, but this 20-Point Programme has remained cnfined to paper only and you have not been able to provide employment so far.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH) : You tell this to Sardar Buta Singh.

SHRI SAYED MASUDAL HOSSAIN: My request is that this year when production and procurement both have risen, you re-start the 'Food for Work Programme' more vigourously, so that the rural farmers and labourers could get jobs and the rural people could benefit therefrom.

In view of the increased foodgrains production this year, you are re-introducing the open General Licenee System. You have permitted the private traders to purchase wheat and you have also removed the restrictions on its inter-state movement and thus they are free to transport it to other states and sell it there. But, I am sorry to say that you do not give permission to a deficit state to make purchases of wheat and rice from the surplus State to meet its requirements. You are permitting the private traders or *banias*, but not the State Government.

Our experience of last year shows that the Government of West Bengal tried to purchase more foodgrains from Punjab, but the permission was not given. You have kept it open for a *bania*; that is not fair. Similar facilities should also be given to the State Governments, so as to enable them to make up their deficiency from other States.

I have to say a few words about F.C.I. also, on the basis of my experience in my own State. Much has been said in this House about F.C.I., long discussions have also been held in the consultative committee. You make allotment from the Centre, but they remain only on paper and the commodities do not reach the States.

F.C.I. has drawn its employees from different departments on deputation. You have not taken any common decision in this regard and owing to this there is a great resentment in them and consequently they resort to strike. In this connection, my suggestion is that you take a right decision in this regard. The employees who have come on deputation from the other departments should be absorbed there as early as possible.

A lot of discrimination is being made in the case of my State in the matter of supplies. You will have to think about that also. I do not know what quality of wheat and rice you supply. Complaints to this effect have been made a number of times, but there has been no improvement in this regard. We have been seeing for quite some time that the quality of foodgrains supplied is very poor, You will have to think over it.

There is no coordination in railway movement. If we bring it to your notice, you will say that the rakes are not available. If we ask the Railway Minister to provide rakes he will say that coal is not available and if we approach the Minister of coal and ask why coal is not being supplied, he will say that the wagons have not been supplied.

This is all a vicious circle. You should try to set it right. If regular supplies are maintained, you will not receive complaint from any State.

At the same time, you should try to raise the allocation of edible oil. The bottleneck in the movement of F.C.I. foodgrains in an old problem of our State. You say that you allot foodgrains but the off-take is not there. In this connection, a question was raised in this House by Maharashtra. The reply was the same that allocation had been made but that the off-take was not there. It is for you to ensure the off-take also. The off-take is not done by the State Government. If there are no goods in the godowns, it is difficult to have any off-take. Last year, such an incident happened in West Bengal. There was a complaint in West Bengal about off-take and our complaint was that you were not making proper supplies to West Bengal, but in two districts Malda and Birbhum, the supplies were all right because both of your Ministers belonged to those districts. That is why the supplies did reeah those godowns. The supplies to these two places are regular whereas the supplies to other places are not normal.

Tripura is a very backward and tiny State. There is shortage of foodgrains and edible oils there. Repeated requests have been made by the State Government to you. You please look into that. Perhaps, you have received a telegram. You pay attention towards that and send them the supplies.

With these words, I oppose these demands...(*Interruptions*) What else we can do? You are not going to accept our suggestions. Had you accepted our suggestions we would have certainly supported these Demands.

*SHRI V.S. VIJAYARAGHAVAN (Palghat) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the demands of this Ministry. This Ministry under the leadership of an efficient person like Rao Birender Singh is functioning effectively and satisfactorily. I congratulate him for the good work he is doing. During the last three decades of independence India has through our five year plans achieved great success in agriculture. The late Panditji, Indiraji and now Rajivji deserve to be congratulated for the correct policy that has been followed with regard to agriculture.

Sir, we have today reached a stage of self-sufficiency in the matter of food. This is in no small measure due to the effective programmes undertaken by the Govt. for increasing agricultural production by using high-yielding varieties of seeds, use of fertilizers etc. In this context I want to congratulate the Government for its decision to reconstitute the agricultural prices commission with more represenratives of farmers on it. I hope this Commission will adopt a more realistic approach towards the prices of agricultural produce.

The Ministry's report says that this year we have been able to procure 17.17 million tons of foodgrains. It was only 15.51 million tons last year. This year that is to say upto 16th March 1985 we have been able to procure 8.53 million tons. This is a great achievement.

Sir, this Ministry has the primary responsibility for maintaining the public distribution system which is an important item in the 20-point programme.

In this context I would like to bring to the notice of Government certain problems concerning the public distribution system in Kerala. The public distribution system has been acclaimed by everybody. Kerala is deficiet in food and we have to depend upon the Centre to meet 60% of our food requirements. There is a complaint that we are not getting foodgrains to meet our requirements. Kerala needs 2.10 lakhs tons of rice per month at the rate of 320 grams per adult per day. But we are getting only 1.10 lakh tons of rice from the Centre. From 1977 June to November 1981 Centre had been supplying 1.35 lakh tons of rice but this was reduced later. The Government of Kerala has requested that the Centre should allot atleast 1.35 lakh tons rice every month. But it has not been accepted by the Central Government. As I said Kerala produces only 40% of its requirement of food. But it produces cash crops which earn valuable foreign exchange. Therefore it is the responsibility of the Centre to meet fully Kerala's requirement of food.

There is a widespread complaint about the quality of the rice that is supplied to Kerala through FCI. It is of interior quality and the Kerala house wives call it "iron rice" It is hard to cook and is not liked by the people of Kerala. Therefore, Kerala should be allotted boiled rice which is the only rice that is liked by the people there.

The Kerala Civil Supplies Corporation is paying a very vital role in the public distribution system in the State. It has many problems. Unless the Civil Supplies Corporation is strengthened the public distribution system cannot function effectively. It is the responsibility of the State Government to provide infrastructural facilities for public distribution and provide the essential items through it. The Central Government gives subsidy and other assistance to its agencies like FCI, STC etc. but the State Civil Supplies Corporation does not get any assistance from the Centre. In this connection I want to say that the Kerala Civil Supplies Corporation has submitted a scheme of Rs. 12 crores for constructing godowns arranging transport etc. I would request the Government to provide the necessary funds to this Corporation.

The Kerala's Civil Supplies Corporation has requested permission to buy rice from surplus States like Andhra. The present policy of the Centre is not to allow the State Civil Corporation to procure rice from the surplus States. At the same time private traders are being allowed to procure from these States. I would request the Government

---

*The speech was orginally delivered in Malayalam.

to allow the Kerala Civil Supplies Corporation also to procure rice from Andhra. It may be allowed to procure at least one lakh tons of rice every year.

Finally I will deal with one more point and that is with regard to the margin allowed in transporting levy sugar from the mills. The Kerala Civil Supplies Corporation is the authorised agency for lifting levy sugar from the mills. Normally the allotment of sugar for Kerala is made by the fag end of the previous month. Therefore, it has to be lifted in a hurry lest the State might lose the quota. The Corporation incurs a expenditure of Rs. 15 to 19 per quintal on transportation. The Centre has allowed only Rs. 9.70. The Corporation is lifting 11000 tons of sugar every month and thus incurs an annual loss of Rs. one crore. Therefore, I would request the Government to raise this margin to Rs. 19 and thus save the Corporation from recurring losses.

Once again I support the demand and conclude my speech.

SHRI KAMLA PRASAD RAWAT (Barabanki) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, while supporting the demands for grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to a few points.

First of all, I would draw his attention to the distribution system. Government intend to distribute essential commodities in the remote villages to benefit the poor but the persons engaged in this work indulge in malpractices. The licences are issued to people of disrepute. I would like to request Government to put a ban on the issue of licences to such people. Those who are involved in such cases or who indulge in fraudulent activities and have a bad reputation, should not be issued licences at any cost. Government had introduced the Janata Cloth scheme but it is not reaching the poor farmers and labourers. This scheme remains confined only to the cities. I would also like to point out that the foodgrains are packed in gunny bags and are taken to the district head quarters for weighment and there the bags are under weighed. You should keep a strict vigil on it too.

The potato production was good this time in our area, but its sale was not good. Therefore, potato is rocting there. I would request you to provide cold storage facilities in U.P. so that potato could be stored there. More than 17 lakh tonnes of potatoes were produced in Barabanki this year. I would therefore, request you to set up a factory there to use potatoes as raw material.

I would also like to draw your attention towards the problem of fertilisers. You have made big achievements such as construction of canals, generation of electricity etc. I would request that more tube wells should be installed. If the problem of fertiliser' is solved, then the food problem can be solved to a great extent. The farmers do not get urea in time. If Government take all these arrangements in their own hand it would bear good results.

In 1982, there was distribution of mini-kits which helped in boosting the production. At some places the mini-kits were of bad quality. The farmers who had their land put in hard work tilling did not get even a single grain as there was no crop. Therefore I request that the mini-kits that are distributed should be of good quality. There is need for more improvement.

With these words, I conclude and thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak.

[*English*]

SHRI ANANTA PRASAD SETHI (Bhadrak) : Mr. Chairman, I support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies.

At the outset, I congratulate the Hon. Minister and also the Ministry for their magnificent management of food economy in our country.

No doubt, the food situation in the country during 1984-85 remained comfortable and foodgrain production in the year 1983-84 also reached an all-time peak level of 151.54 million metric tonnes which speaks of the victory of our popular Government.

I have the privilege to say something and to draw the attention of our Hon. Minister to the support price which should be given at reasonable rate while purchasing the average and the fair quality foodgrains from the small and marginal farmers and to the need to open a large number of fair price shops in th rural areas where the SC, ST and other backward people reside because these people are exploited in the villages by the shopkeepers. The Hon. Minister should take note of this and mete out justice to these people in regard to their getting rice at reasonable price.

Much discussion has already taken place regarding food and civil supplies. Now, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to the difficulties faced by the State Government of Orissa in regard to the allocation of cement, kerosene, rice and also cooking gas.

In case of cement, the allocation of Central levy cement from Centre is of the order of 67,800 metric tonnes per quarter which is very much short of the requirement of the State Government of Orissa. This shortage of the cement ultimately hampers the developmental work undertaken by our State Government.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to this shortage and request him to allocate more cement quota, at least one lakh tonnes per quarter, to, the State Government of Orissa which will be beneficial to the State. The State Government of Orissa has also recently made this suggestion to the Central Government to enhance the quots of cement and I hope that this will be done.

In case of allotment of cement, there is a difficulty faced in regard to the lifting of cement. As per the present practice, the release orders of the rate contract parties of Orissa are issued by the Regional Cement Controllar, Calcutta and it is causing serious difficulties in getting the orders in time. This is resulting in lapses of most of their quotas for each quarter to the embarrassment of the State Government of Orissa.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister and would request him to take up this matter with the Regional Cement Controller, Calcutta to see that this difficulty is removed.

It would be better if the Centtal Government could allow the State Government to issue re-validation as well as release orders to the rate contract parties which would ultimately facilitate smooth lifting of the cement allocation.

In spite of the repeated instructions issued by the Regional Cement Controller to the cement factories for providing at least 30% of the supply to the State Government in the shape of portland cement, the factories concerned never paid attention to the instructions. So, I would request the Hon. Minister to give directions to the cement factory for supplying ordinary portland cement to the State Government as per its requirement to meet the commitment of construction activities under the long life-span schemes.

In Orissa some areas have been affected by drought recently, on account of which the pressure on the public distribution system for the supply of rice has been gradually mounting up. The pressure is likely to increase furthermore in the coming months. In order to keep the rising market price of rice under check, it is necessary that adequate quantities of rice be channelised through the public distribution system. In view of this, I would request the Hon. Minister to take the initiative for increasing the monthly allocation quota to the State upto 50,000 metric tonnes.

As far as supply of cooking gas is concerned, Orissa solely depends on the two depots of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation at Visakhapatnam and Duliajan. The supply of gas from Duliajan is not regular and as a result, lapses occur very often. I would like to utilise this opportunity to request the Hon. Minister of Petroleum and Chemicals to make the entire allocation to the State from Visakhapatnam. Also the Ministry should make all arrangements regarding implementation of the proposed bottling plant of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation with a capacity of 2,500 metric tonnes per year in the State of Orissa without fail.

In Orissa, kerosene is widely used for lighting and cooking purposes due to poor facilities of electrification. The present allocation of kerosene to the State is 8,930 metric tonnes which is like a pigmy against its Himalayan requirment. Since serious inconvenience is being faced in the State due to the insignificant nature of the State's Kerosene quota, I would request the Hon. Minister to take quick measures for the enhancement of the allocation.

With these words, I support the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies.

SHRI V. S. KRISHNA IYER (Bangalore South) : Sir, we are discussing today one of the vital departments of the Government. It is really a happy augury that we have a very able, dedicated and practical man at the helm of affairs.

According to the latest Report, it is a fact that the food position is a bit comfortable now. We have had a record production during 1984-85. There were heavy market arrivals, record procurement and high levels of stocks also. My Hon. Friends have mentioned various figures. I do not want to go in detail. I would like to mention only one or two figures. The procurement of wheat was about 93 lakh tonnes in March 1985 as against 83 lakh tonnes achieved during 1983-84. Similarly, rice procurement, which was 63 lakh tonnes in 1983-84, was 83 lakh tonnes in March, 1985. Ofcourse, the stock position is very comfortable.

Coming to the public distribution system, in 1983 about 16.21 million tonnes were distributed through the public distribution system, but in 1984 due to record production and availability of stock it came down to 13.42 million tonnes.

The buffer stock position also has been comfortable.

Now I will come to the point. The whole thing is comfortable. I would like, however, to bring to the notice of the Government and also the entire House one point. Though the picture is rosy and the food position is comfortable, how many people are eating twice a day ? Now the purchasing power of the common man, the poor people has decreased to a great extent. Of course, I do not hold the Food Ministry responsible for it. But we have to see the reality on the whole. The Government of India must look into the whole thing because we are not able to lift the people who are living below the poverty line. Though we have plenty of food people cannot purchase it. They do not have the money required. Realising many State Governments have launched various schemes. Coming to the southern State, you may be aware that the Andhra Pradesh Government has been selling rice at Rs. 2 kg and even our Karnataka Government also have recently decided that they should sell rice at Rs. 2 per kg from 1st of November. The Tamil Nadu Government has got their popular mid-day meal scheme for poor school-going children.

So I would like the House to know that though the food position is very comfotable, many people are not in a position to purchase food articles. What is it that we have to do ? That we have to think. That is that we have to lift the people who live below the poverty line. Already the Government of India is subsidising to the extent of Rs. 1100 crores. The State Government are also subsidising. Even if we give rice at Rs. 2 per kg many of the people will not be in a position to purchase.

Another point mentioned in the report is that the wholesale prices have remained steady during the last year. I admit it has been steady to some extent but the prices of many of the essential articles are going up and for which the Government is responsible. Say, for example, what about sugar ? Very recently they have enhanced the rate of sugar by 40 paise. What is that poor man's article-kerosene ? Kerosene rates after the recent budget have gone up by 16 paise per litre. The proper person whom we should ask about the price rise is the housewife. I made a calculation about it very recently after the introduction of Central General Budget and the railway budget. The increase of expenditure in a ordinary middle class family having a fixed income is Rs. 100 per month. I am not exaggerating. I have worked it out only a few days ago.

You say that the prices have been stable. But it is not a fact. When there is a record production, it should show decreasing tendencies. It is not there, Even in regard to wheat or rice the prices have not gone down. Of course, the increase has been marginal in rice and wheat. But in regard to other essential articles, say *toor dhal*, etc. even in Delhi the price rise has been steep. Of course, in regard to edible oil, we have been importing edible oil. So far as edible oil is concerned, our country is not self-sufficient. We are dependent mainly on imported edible oils. So we should do something to see that we produce enough edible oil which is a very nescessary ingredient for every family. Why not the government give sufficient encouragement ? Groundnut is grown in plenty and they shoud give all encouragement for edible oil.

So the report regarding price rise I do not accept. It is not correct because there has been a price rice of almost all the articles-except in the case of 1 or 2 articles.

Coming to production costs and the sale price, you have given some figures. You say that the economic cost of wheat and rice— you have mentioned in your report the cost of sale comprising production cost, procurement incidence etc.—for wheat it is Rs.188.42 and for rice it is Rs. 240.72, distribution cost you have stated is Rs. 41.04 per quintal and total economic cost is Rs. 229.46 and Rs. 281.76 and sale realisation for wheat is Rs. 172 and for rice it is Rs. 245. So the gross subsidy that the Government of India gives is Rs. 57.46 for wheat and Rs. 56.9 for rice per quintal. Out of this subsidy Rs. 41.04 is the pool distribution cost and this is where I want the Government to look in to the matter. For every quintal of rice or wheat you have been spending Rs. 41.04 as pool distribution cost. This is on the high side You are paying only Rs. 137 to the grower for paddy. These overhead charges are on the high side and we must be able to reduce it. For every kilo 41 paisa is supposed to be the extra pool cost. This should be reduced.

Now, I would like to draw the attention of the Government to fixing of prices of wheat, paddy and sugarcane. We have got Agricultural Prices Commission but the rates fixed by the APC are never in favour of the grower. Although I belong to urban area yet many of the friends who come from rural areas tell us about the difficulties of growing paddy, wheat and sugar. We must give attractive prices to the growers. We should take into consideration the labour they have to invest; the cost of the fertilisers, etc. All these should be taken into consideration. I have a feeling that the rates fixed by the APC are not reasonable. Many States have been requesting the Government of India that they should be consulted before finalising the prices of wheat and rice but the Government of India has not been consulting the State Governments.

Now, a word about kerosene oil. Kerosene is a fuel of the common man. Here I would like to say that State Governments must also see that kerosene is supplied only to the domestsc users. What is happening is that a lot of kerosene goes to industry. It should be stopped. Many of the people like auto-rikshawallahs mix diesel oil with kerosene. Then more than 50 per cent of kerosene is going in blackmarket. It should be prevented.

Lastly, Sir, a word about Essential Commodities Act. You must see that the State Government enforce it strictly. Although we have got more then 3 lakh fair price shops yet blackmarketing and hoarding is going on. Stringent punishment should be given for hoarding, blackmarketing and adulteration but, I find, most of the State Governments are observing more in breach this Essential Commodities Act. Many of them are not enforcing them. The Central Government must see to it that they enforce the provisions of the Essential Commodities Act and the Adulteration Act. They should be very strictly enforced.

Lastly, I would like to make an appeal on behalf of the Karnataka Government. The Karnataka Government has been requesting you about this repeatedly. You have got enough food stock now. Karnataka State is one of the few States which is contributing to the Central Pool. The Karnataka Government has made an appeal for the supply of 40,000 tonnes of rice per month whereas it is getting only 25,000 tonnes of rice now. Since you have got enough stocks please see that this quantity of 40,000 tonnes of rice requested by the Karnataka Government is made available to them. Now that the State Government is committed to supply rice at Rs. 2 per k. g. to the weaker sections, I request that the extra quantity may be allotted to them.

Lastly I wish to submit that the Karnataka Government was getting the Palmolin Oil through three ports, namely, Mangalore. Bombay and Madras. Now the State Trading Corporation wants to deliver only through Mangalore. It will be yery uneconomical for the State Government. So, I request that it may be distributed through all the three ports, as had been done before.

With these words, I do hope that the food position will continue to be comfortable in the future also,

[*Translation*]

DR. G. S. RAJHANS (Jhanjharpur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, earlier also I have touched some points in this august House. The points I raise here are practical. I do not believe in making long speeches. The attendance in the House shows how much the people are interested in the Food and Civil Supplies Ministry ... (*Interruptions*). What is the importance of foodgrains ? Just to speak in this House and be satisfied ? That will not do. You come with me to the villages. I would show you that there are thousands of such people as do not get even one square meal a day. You may boast of record procurement of foodgrains or record production and other programmes but the poor farmer in the village who does not get food to eat even once a day, is not concerned with these figures. You may say that the prices of commodities have fallen, but I can take you to the market and you can go to any shop and see for yourself whether the prices have come down or not. The prices have not fallen. The people are being crushed. The rich are becoming richer and healthier. This House is the most powerful House in the country. You have to consider whether we should indulge in rhetorics or work for the upliftment of the poor. We should impress upon the people that we would be able to make available to them goods at cheaper rates. You have mentioned in your report that you have made provision of Rs. 1,365 crores for food. But you have allocated only Rs. 19 crores for Civil Supplies. Out of this, Rs. 1,183 crores will be spent on food corporation. On the Central Warehousing Corporation which is the best managed Corporation, only Rs. 352 crores are being spent. I am doing a little research these days. Even otherwise, I am a student of Economics. I was surprised to see that though people criticise the public sector strongly, there is a corporation like the Central Warehousing Corporation in our country which with a humble beginning has earned good profit and whose efficiency is between 95 per cent to 97 per cent. I congratulate the Hon. Minister, and the Management on this but I will go into details a little later.

As compared to the capital employed, the percentage of gross profit of this Corporation was 12 per cent in 1978-79 which later on increased to 18 per cent which is creditable for any Public Sector Undertaking. It is not a small thing. I believe in frankness and calling a spade a spade. Where Government deserve a pat, I shall definitely do so and when it is the turn to criticise, I shall criticise because my very name is 'Rajhans' i.e., Royal Swan. 'Rajhans' sifts the true from the false ... (*Interruptions*). Yes, please, I come from Mansarover and that is why I see the truth as it is and sift it from falsehood.

You publicise daily on the Radio and T. V. that cardboard carton should not be weighed along with the confectionaries and that the carton does not form part of the confectionaries, but I want to say that there is hardly a single shop in Delhi where the carton is not weighed along with the confectionaries. Thus the expenditure incurred on such publicity goes waste and your Radio and T.V. day in and day out go on unnecessarily publicising that legal action would be taken against the defaulting shopkeepers. I want to know against how many such shopkeepers you have taken action. You go to any sweetmeat shop, the shopkeeper will invariably weigh the carton with the sweets. If you ask him why he is weighing both things together, he would always reply either to buy that as it was or otherwise go away. Therefore, I am submitting that we should enact only such laws as can be implemented. If you publicise these things, you should also ensure that these are followed.

Government have fixed the support price of many commodities but the State Governments are not allowing this to be implemented. Regarding fair price shops also, you may calculate how many people are taking advantage of this facility. If you look at the figures, you will find that their number is very less. We are all aware that when ever we go to a ration shop we find that sugar is not available. No body knows where the sugar disappears overnight. The person who gets a licence for a fair price shop considers himself a privileged person of the society and becomes rich overnight. I want that our Government should pay more attention towards fair price shops because if these shops are not run properly, we shall not succeed in achieving our target and the poor and weaker sections of society cannot be benefited. My suggestion is that the department concerned should start some mobile shops because in our country there are certain places from where during rains the people cannot go to far off places to fetch rations. In these areas, mobile ration shops should supply rations to the people so that the people may be benefited. In addition, two or three things more I would like to say. On page numbers 2 and 3 of the Report of this Department, a very good thing has been said that our fruit and vegetable industry will be provided with facilities. During the Assembly elections, the Hon. Minister had gone to my constituency. He must have seen for himself that in spite of lakhs of mango trees, I would not say crores, in that area, what sort of difficulties the farmers there are facing. The mango of Mithila is not only famous in the country ; it is famous the world over. Therefore, you should set up a fruit processing industry there. These industries should not be confined to Silchar and Bhagalpur only, though I am myself a resident of Bhagalpur. These should be set up in the Mithila area also where lakhs of tonnes of mangoes go waste. There you can set up these industries with much ease because power can be available from Kati Power House and mango is very cheap there. Lakhs of people will get employment there. As people have got employment in Silchar and Bhagalpur, the people in Mithila also will be much benefited if a mango processing unit could be set up there.

I have to submit two or three things more. Modern Industries are bottling Double Seven (77) cold drink. This cold drink is of the same type as the Government in 1977. You can supply 'Rasika' in place of '77'. Mangoes and mango pulp can be brought from Mithila. It will be so cheap that you would like to supply the same to the whole of the country at cheap rates. I have many things to say but you have rung the bell. Regarding the Central Warehousing Corporation, I want to say that Shri Daga did not see eye to eye with you regarding this Corporation. This Corporation has done a good job. All the facilities are available here at Pragati Maidan ; all export requirements are met here, customs clearance is given and quality control is also exercised here. I would like to suggest that such dry ports should be set up in other parts of the country also. I would like to suggest that more godowns of the Central Warehousing Corporation should be set up not only here but in foreign countries also.

I was much surprised to know that the Warehousing Corporation has no godowns in Jammu & Kashmir. Either there is some flaw in the Act or something else is there. Warehouses should be set up in Jammu & Kashmir also. I am prepared to say in this House that the performance of these Warehouses is very good.

In the end, I would like to say that we shall have to think seriously to see that foodgrains are made available to the poor. Our speeches that there are plenty of foodgrains in the country and these are available at cheap rates will not serve the purpose. Most of the people in the country are poor and foodgrains should be made available to them. We should also ensure the nutrition value of the food or the eatables made available to them. What will be the use of taking such food by which even people of a very young age look like old men ? If you want to keep the people of the country healthy, the country should be made a Welfare State in the real sense. Sir, with this I conclude.

[*English*]

SHRI G. S. BASAVARAJ (Tumkur) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I wish to say a few words on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies. I am really happy that Food and Civil Supplies has become an independent portfolio. I am sure that the dynamism of our Hon. Minister would reflect in the widening of the public distribution system in the country, which is vital for the poor people. Our Hon. Minister has got an independent charge and he has to manage the affairs of the Food Corporation of India, which is entrusted with the procurement of foodgrains for the Central Pool. Many members have spoken about the mismanagement of the FCI and its affairs. But any how, the annual subsidy that is being given is Rs. 8.50 crores. This is not sufficient if we want to give remunerative prices to the farmers. When I speak about remunerative prices to the agriculturists, it is my duty to emphasize the need for a higher price to paddy. Government of India is now going to pay Rs. 152/-per quintal for wheat ; and at the same time Rs. 137 to Rs. 145 per quintal, for paddy. This is a great injustice being done to the farmers of South India in general and in particular to the farmers of Karnataka who are mainly cultivating paddy.

I learn that the Karnataka Government has recommended perhaps Rs. 160/- per quintal for paddy. Even this is not sufficient. Taking into account the cost of all the inputs necessary for cultivating paddy, the cost price per quintal will not be less than Rs. 180/-. Hence I request the Hon Minister that Government should fix the price at least as Rs. 200/- per quintal, for paddy. Only then the paddy cultivators will be encouraged to continue paddy cultivation, without switching over to the cultivation of cash crops. Otherwise, definitely the farmers will give up the paddy crop. And once again this country may face food problem.

Now about the fixing of agricultural prices by the Agricultural Prices Commission. I would like to know whether there is any real agriculturist in the Price Commission. By their whims and fancies, they fix the prices, and thus hit the agriculturists. Day by day, due to severe drought and the raising of the rates for all the infrastructural materials, agriculturists are suffering. Hence I suggest that in the Agricultural Prices Commission, there should be at least two agriculturists. While doing so, the prices of agricultural commodities will have to be fixed, treating agriculture as an industry. Then there will be an effective coordination in the procurement of foodgrains, after giving remunerative prices to the farmers.

In 1984-85, a substantial amount has been allocated for implementing the 20-point programme. Under the 20 point programme, there is a wide scope for opening of more fair price shops for strengthening the public distribution system. I have to point out that the public distribution system is effective only in urban areas, and not in rural parts.

The Karnataka Chief Minister, Mr. Ramakrishna Hegde has proclaimed from housetops that his Government is 'implementing the 20-point programme more effectively than in any other State. I would like to say that due to prejudices, the existing fair price shops have been cancelled, because they were run by Congress workers. The public distribution system is bad in Karnataka now. I request the Hon. Minister to intervene in the affairs of the State. I hope this situation will be rectified early.

I request that for every 1,000 of population, one fair price shop should be provided. I would also tell the Hon. Minister that the policy of doing procurement under the levy system is at present hurting the agriculturists. In Karnataka, the merchants are collecting levy at mill points, and also in the market yards, where the ryots' commodities are brought for milling and selling respectively. Actually, the agriculturists are being swindied by merchants, and also officials. Hence I request that this type of procurement under the levy system should be avoided. In lieu of this, Government should make purchases only in the open markets.

I also suggest that in the rural parts, proper distribution should be made through fair price shops. I also urge that it is really unfortunate that those who feed the nation are not really fed. Their essential demands can be met only by opening more fair price shops in the rural parts. When you are providing facilities, and adding so many luxuries for people living in urban areas, you must consider the aspirations of the villagers who require their essential commodities at a fair price.

I hope the Minister will chalk out programmes to eradicate all these irregularities, I urge that proper facilities must be provided. The Food Corporation of India must construct its own godowns. We are losing nearly 10% to 12% of foodgrains due to lack of storage facilities. Drastic steps should be taken to stop this loss.

15.00 hrs.

My constituency, Tumkur, is known for the main export of foodgrains and other commodities to the neighbouring States.

There is no proper storage facility available at Tumkur. I request the Hon. Minister to instruct F.C,I. to get a godowns constructed in Tumkur (Karnataka).

Coming to my State, Karnataka, I would say it is severely affected by drought. The Centre has also sent a team to study about the situation and a report is being submitted. Anyhow, I request the Minister to give substantial quota to the Government of Karnataka. When Congress Government was in Karnataka, there was surplus food. But under the present regime, even though they got surplus in 1983-84, they had diverted the surplus quantity to other States without informing the Centre. By that the ruling party added several crores of rupees to their coffers. It is most unfortunate that even in Karnataka the ruling people have minted money we were originally a surplus State, but by improper planning and mal-administration of Shri Ramakrishna Hedge's Government has made it as a deficit State. Hence I request the Government that the people of Karnataka should not be penalised. I request the Minister to give instructions to the State Government to utilize the fund properly. Under NREP, it is most unfortunate that in Karnataka the foodgrains have been diverted to various items. For example, under NREP, the State has diverted the funds and grains to people in charge of their election propaganda during last Assembly elections. I would therefore request that the Minister should instruct the State Government to utilise the funds properly meant for the NREP programme and that food grains should be distributed properly. I would like to suggest that there must be a high level committee in the district blocks headed by the concerned M.P. to regulate or watch the distribution part and the performance of NREP programme and also other centrally sponsored programmes.

The imported oil should be distributed only through fair price depots and cooperatives but it should not be given directly to private sugarcane growers. These growers are also suffering and they should be paid at least Rs. 300/- per tonne.

Regarding fruits and vegetables, in our country, only a small portion of this is being preserved. The rest is wasted. But this preservation method should be increased all over the country by proper processing. The important processed items like frozen vegetables, and dehydrated fruits should be exported to the foreign countries on large scale.

In order to avoid hardship to horticulturists and consumers at every taluk level horticultural cooperative societies are to be installed and these societies will have to handle all these jobs.

In my area, large quantities of mango, guava, tomato, *sapota* and vegetables are being grown and they must be encouraged and cold storage facility should be created. I request that one fruit juice concentration plant is to be installed at Tumukar. With this, I support the Demands for Grants of this Ministry.

SHRI T. BASHEER (Chirayinkil) : I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food & Civil Supplies. The Ministry of Food & Civil Supplies is entrusted with a very basic responsibility. Food is the most important need of the people and supply of the food is the primary responsibility of any government.

I congratulate the Minister and the Department for the efficient management of the food situation in the country but I wish to take this opportunity to extend our gratitude actually to the agriculturists and the agricultural workers in this country who toil round the year to produce food for the entire population of this country.

The food production has reached an all-time record of 151.54 million tonnes during 1983-84 and actually in the last four years wo have witnessed record production. Our farmers and farm workers deserve congratulations and our policy-makers in this country also deserve congratulations.

A vast majority of the people in this country is poor. Their purchasing capacity is very low. In such a country everybody will agree with me that the public distribution system needs to be improved. We have talked much about the public distribution system and under the 20-Point programme the coverage of the public distribution is sought to be expanded by opening new fair price shops to cater to the needs of the weaker sections of the society and especially the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes. But I am sorry to say that the achievement in this field is not up to expectations, considering the magnitude of the problem.

I had gone through the report. I found that during 1982-83 only 14,199 new fairprice shops were opened. I am sure that nobody will claim that this is an achievement. So, I would like to state that the Government has to go a long way. Government should have a well-knit public distribution system all over the country especially in the rural areas. I would like to take this opportunity to suggest that our target should be one fairprice shop for every one thousand persons, at the maximum.

I would also like to stress the role of mobile fairprice shops. That is an important thing. Now, the entire burden of developing the required infrastructure falls upon the State Government. While Central assistance is available to various agencies like the Food Corporation there is no such central assistance for the state agencies. I would plead that the Central Government must provide adequate funds for developing the infrastructure which is very important for public distribution system in the country.

The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation with its area of operation covering the whole of Kerala, possesses rented godowns at all district and taluq headquarters. Under it more than 1600 fair price shops operate. At least a sum of Rs. 10 crores would be required to construct permanent godowns in the State. Another Rs. 2 crores would be required for better transport facilities. So, I request the Hon. Minister to provide adequate funds for developing the infrastructure of the Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation for the public distribution system in the State.

I wish to confine myself to certain important needs of our State. Kerala is a deficit State. The Hon. Minister know it well. While the State's requirement is 32 lakh tonnes, the production is only 12 lakh tonnes. The present monthly allocation of rice from the central pool is only 1.10 lakh tonnes per month. There was a marginal increase by 10,000 tonnes per month between July, 1984 and October, 1984. Then it has been stopped. The present allotment of rice is not adequate for the public distribution system in Kerala. As per the rationing order of the State, the allotment is 320 gram of rice per adult per day and half of it for minors. Thus the monthly requirement comes to 2.10 lakh tonnes. But the Kerala Government is pleading for only 1.35 lakh tonnes, the quantity it was receiving till November, 1981. The Central Government reduced the allocation due to fall in internal production and procurement. But since the production as also the procurement have gone up in the country, there is no justification at all for not increasing the quota for the State. In fact, in my State the demand has been increasing over the years. But still the Government of Kerala has limited its request to restoration of 1.35 lakh tonnes. But it is a matter of anguish that even this request has not been acceded to by the Government of India. Kerala is a producer of cash crops like cardamom, coconut, tea. etc. We earn a lot of foreign exchange for the country. In addition, thousands of Keralites working in the Gulf States have been contributing a lot to the foreign exchange of the country. So, I would stress that Government has a responsibility to allocate sufficient rice for the State. We have in Kerala a well-knit network for public distribution and the State's rationing system is the best of its kind in the country. The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation supplies rice and other essential commodities at subsidised rates to genuine consumers on the identity of ration cards. This is an important anti-inflationary measure adopted by the Government of Kerala. The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation have been exerting a moderate influence on the open market price of rice by its distribution system.

The Kerala State Civil Supplies Corporation now plans to purchase one lakh tonnes of rice from Andhra Pradesh. At present the Government of India is not allowing the State Civil Supplies Corporation and similar other public agencies to purchase rice from surplus States. The paradox is that the Government allowes private agencies to purchase rice from the surplus States but the public agencies do not have that right. So, I request the Hon. Minister that necessary permission may be given to the State Civil Supplies Corporation to purchase rice from the open market in Andhra Pradesh.

Last, but not the least, is that the Hon. Minister may be knowing that there are lot of complaints about the poor quality of rice supplied by FCI to the Kerala State. There was a lot of hue and cry in the Kerala Legislative Assembly also and this issue is agitating the minds of the people of Kerala. I hope that the Minister has given consideration to this issue because as my Hon. friend Shri Vijayaraghavan said, the Punjab rice is coming to Kerala. I donot understand the logic behind this because Andhra Pradesh is a nearby State to Kerala. Government of India and the FCI will earn more if Andhra rice is allotted to Kerala. But I do not understand the logic why they are allowing the Punjab rice to go to Kerala, thereby wasting so much money on transport. I hope, the Hon. Minister has looked into this matter and has already made adequate arrangements to allot Andhra rice to Kerala. I must congratulate him for that. I will not take much time of the House. There are so many issues like kerosene problem etc., as have been mentioned by me Hon. friend, but I will not go into all those. I request the Hon. Minister to allot more rice, more kerosens and more cement to the poor State of Kerala.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Sir, while we are taking part in this debate, today's Indian Express has stated that famine-like situation is existing in Madhya Pradesh and thousands of poor farmers and tribal labour have started migrating from the State. So, this is the paradox of capitalism. There is definitely enough food in this country, but it is also a fact that the purchasing power of the large number of our people is so low that it is beyond their reach and naturally they have to run helter-skelter. This thing has to be probed and remedied. This is my first point. My second point is that we have been demanding, why not 14 essential items like rice, wheat, pulses, edible oils, ordinary clothing, cheap soap, etc. be supplied throughout the length and breadth of this country at a particular price. If we can get diesel and petrol at a particular price throughout the country, if we can get postcards and other material at a particular price throughout the country, why the Government of India dodges to implement this scheme ? The Government of India says that it has to pay a heavy subsidy for this. This subsidy is necessary for feeding the poor people. If the Government of Andhra can give rice to the low-income group people at Rs. 2/- a kilogram—for the last two and a half years they are giving—I do not why our Government of India cannot do it. So, I would request through you, the Government of India that they should take it up; and if subsidy has to be paid from the Government Fund for this, that will be a subsidy which is worth spending and it would not go in vain and our poor people will be getting assured benefit from this.

The third point which I want to make—and which many of our friends have stated from both sides—is about the quality of materials supplied through our ration shops. Sometimes the people question us in what field, in what district, in what State good quality of wheat and rice is produced. Perhaps I do not know. So, this has to be looked into. Why is the quality generally bad ? It is not bad always. Some times we do get good quality also. To give a blanket complaint that every time we get a bad quality is not correct. But most of the time how is it that FCI can procure such quality of wheat and rice ? When there are Government agencies to check qualities, these things should be looked into and checked.

The FCI is a very big organisation and is a very essential organisation. This organisation has to be properly geared to meet the purpose for which it has been set up. There is terrible corruption in many points of FCI. Only today there was an unstarred question stating whether the storage/transit loss in FCI upto 1 per cent is written off at regional level and is not intimated to the regional office and the Headquarters ? The reply of the Government was that they inform. But the fantastic amount is written off. It is not the amount of loss in transit. It is only the amount of loss through transit which is written off. And what is that ? In 1981-82, it was 5.21 lakh metric tonnes, in 1982-83 it was 6.64 lakh metric tonnes and in 1983-84 it was 6.52 metric tonnes. We are a poor country. Our people suffer from paucity of food. Our Harijans, Adivasis and tribals run helter-skelter for food. Some say 52 per cent, some say 42 per cent and some say 44 per cent of our people live below poverty line. When such is the case, I urge upon the Government to take action. Why should such things be allowed to continue in FCI ? Suppose there are strong people to support these corrupt practices in the FCI, then the Government should be strong enough to deal with these things.

I would beg to submit that 10 per cent of the production of food is lost due to poor storage. The Government must come out with sufficient storage facilities to protect our food. Even rates are eating 10 million tonnes of our food a year, when our people are starving. The Sixth Plan allocated Rs. 259 crores to make a storage capacity of 7.6 metric tonnes. National grid were to complete 3.5 metric tonnes; cooperative sector were to make 2 metric tonnes, but; I want to know from the Government what is the actual achievement in this regard.

It is a matter of great satisfaction that we have increased the production of wheat and rice. Definitely it is a good thing. But production of pulses and oil seeds, is stagnant. I would like to know what steps have the Government taken to increase their production because in our country even today, excepting some small number of people, the protein which the common people take, they get from pulses. Therefore, production of pulses should be increased and effective steps should be taken in this regard. And effective steps should be taken.

Many of my colleagues have talked regarding remunerative prices. This year our Hon. Minister should know how the people in U.P. are going to suffer. Already the farmers of Bengal have suffered in the matter of potato. Our farmers had to sell potato at a prices of Rs. 28 or Rs. 30 per quintal And you are seeing the same thing here also. If sufficient cold storage has not been provided, then every year the potato growers will be affected and every year we will be raising this issue on the floor of Parliament. So, the Government must allocate enough funds so that we can have sufficient storages in the public sector.

The last but one point I want to make is that throughout India supply of sub-standard materials through many agencies and Shops is made. You buy a soap, you buy oil or some other goods, almost everything is sub-standard. I do not know what the ISI is doing. I suggest that the Government must make it compulsory that all these materials must have to get the certificate from the ISI and if anything is found to be sub-standard, then there should be adequate punishment. This Government which has been helping the industrial houses must punish them if they are found to cheat the people.

My last point is regarding cement. I hope perhaps the Hon. Minister may help in this regard. There are two types of cement – Portland cement and Stag cement. Stag cement, the ingredients of which come from iron mills, costs much less. There is a big difference between the cost of production of Stag cement and that of Portland cement, but both the varieties are sold at the same price in the market. I would suggest that Government should make special arrangements to procure Stag cement. If need be, there should be coordination with other Departments. Stag cement should be produced in the public sector and should be made available to the common people at a lesser price.

With these words I beg to submit that our Minister should be good enough to deal with corruption in his Department and in the matter of dealing with corruption he will get the support from all of us.

SHRI VIJAY N. PATIL (Erandol) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies.

Sir, I do not agree with the point made by Mr. Choubey that if Andhra Government can supply rice at Rs. 2/-per kilo, why can't other State Governments do it and why can't the Central Government also do it ? I do not want to go into the political gimmicks, but if something is done at the cost of other development and economic prosperity in favour of one State at the cost of other States, it is not good in the larger interests of that State also. Of course, I agree that the poor people should get food and other essential commodities at reasonably low prices. The quality should also be good, but when we demand that the quality of the foodgrains should be good in the fair price shops, we forget that at the time of procurement, we have to take the affected grains or poor quality grains also from the farmers sometimes. That is forced sometimes on the FCI. That is what my experience is. Some months ago, in my State there was rainfall at the time of maturity of the zowar grain. The result was that it turned blackish and the procurement agencies had to buy it. Last year there was heavy rain in Haryana and Punjab at the time of harvesting of wheat and when such type of affected grain is procured and processed, after some time when there is a complaint, these stocks are declared as unfit for human consumption. I would like to suggest to the Minister that if there is a compulsion to procure such materials—if it is procured in the beginning itself—they should be declared as unfit for human consumption, instead of sending the materials to market or fair price shops, getting Complaints from there and then declaring them as unfit. It is because by that time, lot of money is wasted in the process of storing, transportation and other things.

A number of godowns for storing of foodgrains and other commodities are concentrated in some particular areas. In this regard, if one agency godown-at-one-station policy is adopted, the godowns will be well distributed. Otherwise what we see is, in a particular town, there are godowns of Central Warehousing Corporation, godowns of Food Corporation of India, godowns of State Warehousing Corporation and in other areas, there are no godowns. We have the scheme for small godowns of 200 tonnes or 500 tonnes capacity in rural areas. For these godowns, I will suggest that the subsidy component should be increased so that the agency will be able to construct more number of godowns.

We are still importing oilseeds in a larger measure. At the same time, we are promoting the cultivation of oilseeds within the country. In States like Madhya Pradesh, soyabeans cultivation and in Gujarat groundnut is encouraged. There is lot of scope for some more groundnut cultivation in Maharashtra also where more attention can be given and the import worth crores of rupees can be avoided and foreign exchanges can be saved.

My Hon. friends here have suggested about having a fair price shop where there is a population of one thousand or more. I also agree with their suggestion. But I would like to make one point that whenever there is a fair price shop in a small area or remote area or tribal area, the percentage of commission of the shopkeeper or the society which is maintaining the shop should be more. It is because they have to take the essential commodities to from longer distance and the number of purchasers or cardholders will also be less. If the percentate of commission for small fair price shopkeepers in remote areas is increased, it will be a little bit profitable to them also and black marketing can be prevented or at least minimised.

I am glad that about 1,90,000 raids were conducted throughout the country and many of the culprits doing black-marketing in the commodities supplied through fair price shops were punished. The result is that the public distribution system is improving day by day. It is heartening to note that the number of fair price shops has increased to 3.05 lakhs. If we adopt the criterion of one fair price shop per one thousand population they will be more in number.

The losses in transit and other losses are mounting to more than Rs. 100 crores in the Food Corporation of India. Efforts should be made to reduce these losses and the over-stocking—which we have been in this Corporation--should also be looked into. There are more than 10,000 people working in the Corporation. Of course, there is unemployment problem in our country. But it should not be at the cost of the consumers. It is a good thing that the consumer protection movement has started. The consumers are made aware of their rights, how the prices are fixed, what should be the prices of commodities and other things. Media are also taken help of by consumer/producer cooperative movements.

Lastly, I would like to point out that through MFIL the Government has proposed to start two fruit processing units, one at Silchar and the other at Bhagalpur. I would also suggest to the Hon. Minister that one fruit processing unit for oranges should be started at Nagpur where sometimes oranges worth crores of rupees produced by the farmers are wasted.

With these suggestions I conclude and I thank you for giving me an opportunity to speak on these Demands. I support the Demands.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K. J. ABBASI (Domariaganj) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for allowing me to speak. I rise to support the Demands for Grants in respect of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies. First of all, I would like to say that Government have played a very big role in achieving self-sufficiency in the matter of food. We remember the time when the farmers did not know how to increase their production. Government set up blocks for teaching new methods. When the block employees used to go to farmers to sell seeds to them, they were not willing to purchase the seeds and sow them. Such type of difficulties were encountered in our efforts to increase the food production. They were asked to earmark half a bigha of land to us for sowing the seeds and showing them whether there were beneficial or not. Gradually they came to know the utility and value of new seeds. Now they are sowing these improved varieties of seeds and are increasing their production. The farmers has achieved success in this new venture. I would like to congratulate the farmer and Government for this. But we fail to appreciate the difficulties faced by the farmer. His crop is sometimes destroyed in floods. Still he does not lose hope but works ceaselessly to produce more. He deserves congratulations for this. On the other hand, our Government have failed to do the required justice unto the farmer. You may ask what it is you neither increase the price nor do anything else. Still he bears all these things. When he offers his foodgrains for procurement he has to face great difficulty. Sometimes, they say that the bags are not there, sometimes they say that the foodgrains are not good. The bania keeps on seeing all these things. When the farmer is fedup after waiting for one or two days, he sells his foodgrains to the "bania". Some measures will have to be taken to check this thing. I would like to point out to the Minister that this is the most important question. You have increased the price by five rupees. Do not increase the price but see to it that the foodgrains are procured at the price fixed by you. You have set up centres, but all these are on paper only. The required attention was not paid towards it even at the time of elections and centres were also not set up. During the elections, I tried my best to get the centres opened, but I could not get succeed. The wheat crop is stated to be good. I am fully sure that if you take some strong steps, the poor farmers will not have to sell his produce at a lesser price. Otherwise, you will get foodgrains not from the farmer direct but through the 'bania'. The farmer is not going to forgive you for the fraud committed on him in this way. It is the biggest problem. Now let us have a look at distribution system. I know the position prevailing in my district. Previously, the rich persons used to purchase all the sugar and kerosene oil and then used to sell them in the black market. There was no check on this. Later on, when a hue and cry was made, it was handed over to co-operatives. Co-operatives always experience shortage of funds and they are not able to bring the goods in time. The result is that corruption is increasing. Some arrangements have now been made by Government. Some work has been entrusted to co-operatives and some to the private traders. Now, they have started issuing licences and the work has been entrusted to fair price shops. I would like to give a suggestion in the connection. Government want to bring about socialism in the true sense because they have done a lot of work in this direction. No either government nas done no much in this direction. We are anxious that socialism should be brought about in the country. Our Congress Party has maintained contacts with the farmers. It is very much cocerned about their interests and it has always worked in their interest. Government should set up consumer stores in the villages also as they have done in the cities. You may not reduce the prices, but it is very necessary to set up consumer stores in the villages. The twenty-point programme includes the opening of more and more fair price shops in the villages. These fair price shops and consumer stores should be opened there. However, we have not been fully successful in providing help to the poor and weaker sections of society under this proprogramme. Hence, I would like to say that fair price shops should be opened in villages also as has been done in the cities so that the rural people are also benefited by this programme for which they are entitled alsc.

Of course, the persons not belonging to the weaker sections are also entitled to get goods at cheap rates. I do not say that you reduce prices for the rural folk but the prices should be reasonable. In the cities, you have set up super bazars, co-operative stores and consumer stores, but in the rural areas there is no such thing. You should formulate a scheme for setting up consumer stores in each village. You should provide financial help to them also. They should themselves purchase goods and should have storage capacity with them. The consumers should also be made members of these stores.

An Hon. Member has said one thing more here. You should make arrangements to ensure that all the 14 essential commodities are made available in these consumer stores. These commodities should be sold at prices fixed by you and these prices should be reasonable. The people belonging to other sections of society will get goods at reasonable prices, the farmers and the poor people will be supplied with foodgrains through fair price shops. If you want that the rural people saould not go to city markets for everything, such arrangements are necessary ......You have rung the bell so quickly. I want to submit some more things.

It is the talk of the day every where and it is commendable also that you have conducted 1,85,048 raids throghout the country and arrested 6,780 persons, 3,952 persons were prosecuted and punishment has been awarded to a total of 726 persons. These figures relate to the year 1984. I would like to draw your attention towards one thing. We are happy to know that 1,85,084 raids were conducted but the fact that only 726 persons were awarded punishment proves that raids had been conducted only for taking money. It means that the raid was conducted and money had been taken. I want that if somebody escapes from punishment after the raid, the officers should be held guilty for this and they should be awarded punishment for acquitting the person after taking money form him. We fail to understand why a person should escape arrest after raid. Either the officer, who acquitted him, has taken money from him, or the case has been hushed up in order to save him. There can be no other reason for this. If anybody goes scot-free after the raid, the entire responsibility should be that of the officer who conducted the raid. ... (*Interruptions*)... It is also true that we are also guilty of this to some extent. So many raids were conducted, but only 726 persons were awarded punishment. It is also not clear on how many of them only fine was imposed, how many of them were awarded imprisonment of only one hour and how many were awarded imprisonment for longer period. This is not clear from the Annual Report also. I desire that you should pay attention towards it. However, the steps taken by you and the new schemes formulated by you in order to improve the situation are commendable.

Now, I would like to say a few words regarding sugar. You might have observed thar during the year 1982-83 the total production of sugar in the country was 82.32 lakh tonnes whereas it had come down to 59.16 lakh tonnes during 1983-84. You have given many reasons for low production, but the main reason is that the cane growers do not get remunerative prices. There are heavy arrears as has also been stated by one of our learned friends. You should pay attention towards it. I know the position about Uttar Pradesh only and not about other states.

In Uttar Pradesh the farmers do not get their sugarcane dues. Their dues are in arrears. The farmers experience great difficulties in selling their sugarcane to sugar mills. There is no doubt that you have increased the price slightly. In the Janata regime, sugarcane was burnt. During the Janata time it had appeared in the press that more sugarcane was not to be produced as there had been no further requirement of sugar. I have got the newspaper in which this had appeared. I do not consider it necessary to read it. It was in the newspaper that there had been enough sugar and there was no need to grow more sugarcane. You had increased its price from about Rs. 5 to Rs. 20. You need not increase the price, but you should provide facilities. The exesting sugarcane crushing machines installed jn the factories do not help in greater production of sugar. These machines are obsolete ones. The mill owners do not install modern machines. So, you should take over these mills and install modern machines there.

I have to say many things, but the time

is short. Lastly, I would like to say that their this budget has resulted in price-rise. You can verify it from those, who purchase goods themselves. Their budget has increased by Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 per month. Sugar, which was available at Rs. 5 a kg. is now available at Rs. 6.40 a kg. Milk is available at Ys. 1.70 as against Rs. 1.40. Bread has disappeared from the market. It is not available. Vanaspati ghee is available at Rs. 17.10 as against Rs. 16.15. The price of mustard oil has increased considerably. Similarly, the price of kerosene oil has also increased. Pulses, which were available at Rs. 7 a kg. are now priced at Rs. 8 a kg. So, you have to check the price-rise. Prices of some items have increased whereas the prices of certain other items have been deliberately pushed up. It is the responsibility of our Government to have a control on prices which have been deliberately increased. I hope that you will check the price-rise with an iron hand.

With these words I would like to congratulate you that now our country does not depend on others in the matter of foodgrains. Now we are not dependent on others. We have got so much stock of foodgrains with us that if Governmrnt acts carefully, we shall be able to export foodgrains. The increase in the production of foodgrains is due to the efforts made by the farmer. You should pay more attention towards him. With these words I congratulate you and conclude my speech.

***SHRI R. ANNA NAMBI** (Pollachi) : Hon. Mr. Chairman, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me this opportunity to say a few words on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies for 1985-86 on behalf of my party the All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam.

At the outset I would say that the effective management of food economy alone will give stability to economic growth in agriculture-predominated country like India. I have to commend the laudable work being done by the Food Corporation of India in managing the food economy. I take pride in saying that this Corporation was set up by Shri C. Subramaniam when he was Food and Agriculture Minister and that he hailed from my place Coimbatore. Today the Food Corporation of India has grown into an important limb of the economy of the country. It is doing signal service to the country. The F.C.I. procures foodgrains from agriculturists and stores them in warehouses. This gives not only price stability for the farmers but also acts as insurance in a bad agricultural year. I have to mention here that the F.C.I. is engaging intermediaries for procuring foodgrains from the farmers. These intermediaries cheat both the F.C.I. and the farmers. I demand that the F.C.I. should directly through its officers procure foodgrains from the farmers and eliminate for ever the intermediaries.

There is heavy loss of foodgrains while they are being transported from fields to warehouses. The total transportation loss is reported to be of the order of 10%. It means that several hundreds of lakhs of rupees worth foodgrains are lost in transportation. I suggest that effective steps must be taken for containing this transportation loss. Again, in warehouses the annual loss of foodgrains on account of rodents is several crores of rupees. It is said that 20% of foodgrains is destroyed by rats every year. This kind of loss is national loss and it must be avoided at any cost. The F.C.I. has not a got adequate storage space. Every year several hundreds of crores of rupees are paid as warehousing charges to private people who own such warehouses. I suggest that more funds should be allotted to F.C.I. for construction of warehouses.

The common people of the country get their essential commodities through fair price shops. As on 1.4.1984 3,05,000 fair prices were in existence, according to the Annual Report of the Ministry. India is a country villages with 5.6 lakhs of villages where 80% of our population lives. I do not think that 80% of these fairprice shops are located in rural areas. I demand that more fairprice shops should be opened in rural areas. The public distribution system has been given an important place in 20-point programme. This has to be strengthened for the good of the people at large.

Sir, I am afraid that the Adulteration Act is not being implemented effectively. Even in fairprice shops there is adulte ation in essential commodities. I demand that stringent punishment should be awarded to the employees of fairprice shops who indulge in adulteration of essential commodities. The Adulteration Act must be enforced with vigour and verve.

---

*The speech was originally delivered in Tamil.

The cultivation of pulses in Tamil Nadu is limited and hence all the requirement of pulses has to come from northern States. Tamil Nadu frequently faces shortage in pulses, the consequence of which is soaring price of pulses. This, I understand, is due to non-allocation of wagons for the transportation of pulses from northern States to Tamil Nadu and other Southern States. The Hon. Railway Minister was here some time ago. I request the Hon. Minister of Food to have effective coordination with the Railway Minister and ensure the transportation of pulses to Tamil Nadu and other Southern States. The staple food in Tamil Nadu is pulses and hence pulses must be made available to the people at reasonable prices.

The Indian Standards Institution, under the charge of this Ministry, is implementing the Certification Marks scheme for ensuring quality goods. Unfortunately this Institute lacks in adequate laboratory facilities for checking the samples. I demand that more money should be allocated to ISI for having better laboratory facilities so that the Certification Marks scheme can be implemented effectively for ensuring quality goods.

You will agree with me, Sir, when I say that the States like Tamil Nadu, which are victims of the vagaries of weather, should have substantial stocks of foodgrains. Drought is a recurring phenomenon in Tamil Nadu. When the Government wants more allocation of rice from Central Pool, the Minister will immediately advise that the people of the State should change their food habits. They should take wheat and reduce the consumption of rice. I have to say that the people of Tamil Nadu are slowly trying to consume more wheat. But the climatic conditions compel them to take to rice. I would say that more rice should be allotted to States whether it be Punjab, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Assam, Orissa or Karnataka—which are afflicted by natural calamities like flood and drought. For emergency requirement, stocks of foodgrains should be there in such States susceptible to natural calamities. Recently Tamil Nadu was the victim of a vicious cyclone which destroyed standing paddy crop on several thousands of acres. The Government of Tamil Nadu wanted immediately 80,000 tonnes of rice, but the Centre supplied 10,000 in the first instance and again another 10,000 tonnes. How do you expect the State to rush succour to the cyclone afflicted people who have lost all their meagre belongings ? As I stated earlier, I demand that the Central Ministry of Food should rush foodgrains to State afflicted by such natural calamities, whether it is Tamil Nadu or Karnataka or for that matter any State in India. There should be no reservation in such emergencies. I am sure that our Hon. Food Minister will implement this suggestion forthwith.

With these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA (Pali) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, in the first instance, I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards page No. 28 of the report :—

[*English*]

> "As the capacity of the roller flour milling indusiry in the country was in excess of requirements there was complete ban on the stablishment of new mills or on the expansion of existing ones. After a brief period of relaxation from June 1979 to May 1980, the ban has continued. This policy was also continued during the year under report.The total number of flour mills in the country as on 31.12.1984 was 456 with an annual capacity of 8.9 million tonnes."

[*Translation*]

All the mills are supplied with their requirement of wheat at a fixed price. In my view the policy of supplying wheat to 456 flour mills at subsidised rates should be reviewed by government. Why are these mills supplied with wheat at that rate ? I would like to know the price of the flour prepared from such wheat. Has the price of any flour been fixed by Government ? You have made arrangement for the supply of full requirement of wheat to flour mills, but you have no control on the price of the flour which would be prepared from such wheat. After all, who is going to be benefited by the procurement of wheat by you ? The purpose behind procurement is to make the foodgrains available to the poor at fair prices. I do not understand the logic behind supplying procured wheat to 456 flour mills and there after permitting them to sell the flour at any price which they like. I would like to know the expenditure incurred in the procurement of wheat. I am unable to understand the policy of supplying wheat to flour mills. The policy in this regard should, therefore, be reconsidered.

In addition to this, I would like to mention one more point. You have made a statement that guidelines have been prescribed for the supply of rations under the 20-Point Programme to the poor living in far flung villages in the hilly areas, inaccessible areas and desert areas. But I would like to submit to you that you have never reviewed the work done by more than three lakhs of fair price shops. We are not satisfied with the figures supplied by you. The rationed commodities are not being made available in the far flung villages in an honest manner. I have with me *Nav Bharat Times* of 11th December, 1984 in which it has been reported that the wheat which should have been supplied to the consumers through fair price shops is sold in the open market and the edible oil to be supplied as rationed commodity through the fiair price shops, disappears from the fair price shops and is freely available in the open market, This is the situation that prevails at present.

On one occassion, the Hon. Minister had himself admitted in his statement that controlled cloth and Janta cloth was not available to the people. It is sold through other shops which earn profit. The people do not get dhotis or saris. Your Textilies Ministry had first asked the Textile mills to manufacture a certain proportion of cloth as controlled cloth and later on it asked the N.T.C. mills to manufacture controlled cloth. But even the N.T.C. failed to produce controlled cloth as it has been running at a loss. In this way the people will not be able to get controlled cloth. You have said that 2,70,000 fair price shops are functioning in the country and shops have been opened even in the corners of Orissa and Rajasthan. But I would like to tell you that rationed commodities are not available there and Kerosene is also not available.

I would also like to know the points through which rationed wheat pases. I would like to know how wheat is supplied through middemen and how cloth is distributed. You have rung the bell, but your bell would also seal their fate. Before the people get a commodity, it passes through many channels. First of all, a rationed commodity is stored in the central warehouses, then it goes to the State Warehouses and there after it goes to the tehsildar and then tehsildar distributes it to the dealers. Have you ever given thought to it ?

You have set up many corporations on which a huge expenditure is incurred. When one Member asks another Member what he replies he is a chairman. Another Member says that he is the chairman of a State Warehousing Corporation. "Are you from U.P." "Yes, I am chairman in U.P." In this way there are many white elephants. So many chairman have been appointed. Many corporations have been set up.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : All these corporations are *chorporations.*

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : In this way cloth passes through five hands and only then it reaches the consumer. In the meantime the cloth is spoiled and the prices rise very much.

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): Yes, cloth is spoiled.

SHRI MOOL CHAND DAGA : Not only cloth is spoiled, quality cloth is not available to the consumers. Dealers earn profits through dishonest means. People do not get dhotis and saris. What is the NAFED. It is a malady which you are tolerating. Lakhs of ruppes are bungled in the Super Bazar. Wherever you want to keep white elephants, you keep such white elephants. I was going through the list of your societies-A.P. State Federation Ltd., Hyderabad; Rajasthan Co-operative Consumer Society; Marketing Societies—I want to know why so many societies have been set up.

So far as Kerosene is concerned, nobody wants to sell Kerosene. The dealer gets only empty tin—as profit. When you reply to this point, I know you will say that distribution is the responsibility of the States. Not only Kerosene, but none of the other items included in the list such as exercise books, slate and other essential items also are available to the people. You have said that advisory Committes would be set up at the taluka level, district level and State level, but I have never heard about taluka level committee. Cement is also not available. You have framed many guidelines, but no guideline is being followed. Where have you arranged mobile units ? There might be some mobile units in U.P., but there is no such unit in Haryana. Why do you frame such programmes ? Your officers formulate point by point programmes giving point No. 1, 2, 3, 4 to various items, but not even a single point is implemented. Fair price shops are not working properly. Neither exercise books nor text books and paper are available at controlled rates. You should make a review of the scheme and find out the reasons why this scheme is not being implemented properly.

Mr. Chairman, Sir, it is not the Governments fault that fair price shops are not functioning properly. As a matter of fact, the co-operative societies which run these shops do not have sufficient funds and as a result these societies are unable to purchase items for the shops. Your tehsildar and the District Food and Civil Supplies officer take advantage of the situation and the middlemen earn huge profits at the cost of the poor and the backward people who do not get any benefit at all.

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies. First of all, I would like to say that the Hon. Minister had done a commendable job when he was Agriculture Minister and as a result our food production had increased, but the system of procurement of foodgrains is very defective. I would like to know the steps taken by Government to improve this system. Last time also I had said that there were not adequate storage facilities for storing the foodgrains procured by Government and as a result the foodgrains were kept in the open and at the railway station and thus the foodgrains got damaged. The foodgrains get damaged due to rains and become unfit for human consumption causing loss to the tune of crores of rupees. I would like to know the steps taken to increase the storage capacity or whether you are going slow in this direction.

It has been mentioned in your report that 22 million tonnes of foodgrains are lying in your stock at present. Now, a huge quantity of foodgrains would be further procured by Government, I would like to know the storage arrangements made by Government to store the same. You have allowed the private traders to export the foodgrains this year. On the one hand we say that the foodgrains trade should be nationalised and no other agency except government should be allowed to handle the foodgrains trade but on the other hand when foodgrains production has increassd, you have allowed the private traders to report it. Is it proper on your part ?

Since, at present you do not have storage capacity, you do not have funds either and you do not have any alternative arrangement, you have allowed some slackness to creep in, but have you ever thought how harmful this slackness will prove for our procurement policy and the storage of foodgrains in future ? You should re-consider it and if at all exports are to be made, it should be done by the Government. Others should not be given such right. These middlemen make profits using all the methods at their disposal. They send inferior goods to other countries, which brings a bad name to our country. They strike a deal for one quality but send goods of an inferior quality. You might remember that rice was exported to foreign countries. The deal was struck for basmati rice, but parmal rice was sent instead which brought a very bad name to our country. You should reconsider it, this policy is not in our country's interest.

There is a big difference between your procurement price and the distribution price. Why do you not make this difference as much less as possible ? Today, a trader is doing business at four rupes per quintal as margin of profit but in your case this margin is Rs. 40 to 45 per quintal. Thus, your commodities reach the consumers at a very high rate. If these intervening irregularities are removed, a lot of improvement can be made. There is a vast scope for improvement in it, which you must do.

My second submission is about fair price shops. You have opened 3.5 lakh fair price shops throughout the country. As Shri Daga has said, you have opened such a large number of shops but so far as the distribution part is concerned, you are unable to make all the commodities available to the people. I may tell you about my own constituency. The people have not received sugar for the last three months there. The sugar has not reached there for the last three months. In the villages, neither wheat nor edible oil nor cloth is available at fair price shops. Only sugar is distributed there and if even that sugar is not available there for 3 to 4 months, what is the use of these fair price shops ? Therefore, you should take steps to improve this system. You have got so much of stock of sugar, but, in spite of that if the sugar is not available to the people, this is not proper.

The same is the case with edible oil. Shri Daga has also spoken about it and so do I that nowhere in the villages is edible oil available at fair price shops. That edible oil is sold in the market at a higher price and it is not available to the consumer at the fair price shops at the price fixed for it. You should also make proper arrangement for this so that edible oil is made available to the people at subsidized rates.

Similar is the case of cloth. Earlier also, it had been stated that controlled cloth had not been made available to the people in the rural areas. Your N. T. C. has incurred a loss of Rs. 500 crores. What are the reasons behind this loss ? The cloth that it produces should reach the people. We are prepared to bear the burden of such a huge loss of Rs. 500 crores to the country if the cloth reaches the people in the villages at cheap rates and the labourers get their wages. This loss can be borne if cloth at cheap rate is made available to the people throughout the country, but the management there is not proper and the middlemen are earning undue profit, as a result of which, the N. T. C. has incurred a loss of Rs. 500 crore. You should make efforts to improve the management of N. T. C. so that the people could get cloth at a cheap rate.

Similarly, many Hon. friends have said that there are 14 such items which should be distributed through Government. At present, you are handling the distribution of five items and even these five items are not made available to the rural people. Therefore, you should take steps to improve this distribution system. There are 5 to 6 metropolitan cities in our country. At least you should make such arrangement in these metropolitan cities that the rationed items are available to the people without any difficulty. The fair price shops supply wheat and rice is equal quantity but that too is not available. Non-rice eaters are also given 50 per cent rice and 50 per cent wheat. What I want to say is that the people who do not eat rice should be given the full quota of wheat and the people who eat rice should be given the full quota of rice. It is very necessary to make proper arrangement in this regard and you should improve this arrangement in the metropolitan cities.

I have to make a submission about cooperative societies in particular. The condition of cooperative Socicties is very bad. They do not have funds, as a result of which they are unable to supply all the essential commodities to the people. You try to issue 14 items from big companies through them. How can these cooperative societies buy all these items without finances ? You have not made arrangements so far to provide them with finances, as a result of which these cooperative Societies cannot make available all these items. Therefore, there is a dire need to make proper arragements to provide finances to the cooperative soicieties so that they could buy all the articles and make them available to the people.

My second point is about vegetable oil. You import edible oil from foreign countries and supply it to the vanaspati ghee mills. The people do not get vanaspati ghee even at the price which you fix thereafter. The mill owners charge a high price for ghee from the people. Why do you supply them imported edible oil at subsidized rates on which so much of foreign exchange is spent when they do not adhere to your dirctions ? You should stop this practice and should make such an arrangement under which vanaspati ghee could be made available to the people at a cheap rate. You should take over the Vanaspati ghee mills on the same lines as you have nationalized the food industry so that the distribution of vanaspati ghee could go on smoothly.

There is one point about my own constituency. There is a place named Mandalgarh is my constituency. The State Government have sent their recommendation to you for the setting up of a vanaspati ghee mill there. Groundnuts and other things are available there in abundance. Steps should be taken to set-up a vanaspati ghee mill in that area at the earliest so that vanaspati ghee could be made available to more and more people.

With these words, I support these demands.

[English]

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE (Panskura) : I have risen on a very specific point. I do not know whether the Hon. Minister is aware that in the Capital, Delhi, we are buying seem at Rs. 10 a k.g., brinjal at Rs. 10 a k.g. and drumstick at Rs. 16 per kg. I have no time to illustrate other items. There is a tremondous hike in prices of vogatables and this has put the poor and middle class people in great jeopardy. I draw your attention to these items and want some concrete stops to be taken about them.

You give us rice. I do not want to quarrel about its quality. I have no time. I will make a specific request. Earlier, an arrangement was made that you will give us paddy and in our rice mills over there, we will make it into parmal rice; that was very much in the interest of our State and your good name also because our people are accustomed to parmal rice.

Then we have a lot of people unempolyed who can be employed in the rice mills- So, from both these points of view, I request you to reconsider the present position and help our State and help your own Department also winning a better goodwill from. us.

In my constituency, there are a large number of FCI godowns and also a number of rice mills. I find there that, over the last 2-3 years, new gunny bags at the rate of Rs. 6-8 were given by the FCI. Now, some of the rice mills requested that let these gunny bags now be taken for paying our levy rice. At the moment, the market price for the new gunny bags would be Rs. 15/-; that it self is costing the FCI extra Rs. 11 lakhs. I do not understand why these old-not very old-practically new gunny bags which are lying in the FCI godowns and the rice mills godowns could not be taken for delivery of these and this money will be saved.

Since this is a huge organisation, there must be various points like this. I believe there are various ways of avoiding wastage in your Department which you will please try and also rout out corruption which is there in the various FCI godowns. I hope you will consider the various points raised by me.

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY (Alipurduar) : I should like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister to one great difficulty which we are facing. We have grown enough food for the country, but the question is only supply of good food for the people in the country. The difficulty is that the growers are not getting remunerative prices and the consumers are also paying high prices. They are required to pay much more than what is expected of them. In between there are a number of middlemen. Those middlemen are eating everything in our country and because of them the country is suffering. So, the Government should try to eliminate these middlemen because they have no consideration for the nation at large. Foodgrain is the lifeline of the entire nation and foodgrains should be available to the people all over the country.

Children are drinking milk. But what kind of milk ? We do not get pure milk. We ask for pure milk, but there is adulteration in everything, even in edible oils. In rice we get stones in a good number. A housewife has to check them thoroughly before she prepares the food for the children. The people who are manning the distribution centres should be given proper training and they must be taught to cultivate a sense of nationhood. On account of them, lot of damage is being done, the foodgrains may be adulterated and it may result in the spread of diseases. So, unscrupulous persons should not be given this job. There must a three months' or four months' training before the distribution is assigned to them. This is my demand.

I want to make a particular submission here about the godowns of F.C.I. There is a lot of wastage in carrying the foodgrains from those godowns. I suggest that every block must have one godown. That will save a lot of money and also the people of that locality can be taken care of. There should also be facilities for cold storage. At several places farmers are producing some perishable goods but they are suffering for want of facilities for cold storage. In Bhutan and in Bengal we produce a large quantity of apples and Pine apples. There should be food processing industries in those areas so that we can get good food and fruits and also distribute them all over India or even to the outside world.

We are getting subsidised rice and atta but I also want the tea industry to be given proper protection so that the workers who are now ill paid get good wages and the growing unemployment can be checked. Also I want the subsidiary industries to be encouraged.

I want the distribution of essential commodities like edible oils, dals wheat and rice, washing soap, janata cloth, kerosene oil, tea, sugar, salt, books and papers and other articles needed by school children to be streamlined. This should be immediately supplied to the tea gardens of North Bengal. If the distribution system is not well organised and the people who are manning it do not have the nation's interest at heart, then growing more food in any quantity will not help the situation. In that situation you will fail, your Government will fail and in general Indian people will lose longevity and Indian people will be weak in strength.

With these words, I request the Government to do the needful.

[*Translation*]

***SHRI V. KRISHNA RAO** (Chikkaballapura) : Hon. Chairman, Sir, I take great pleasure in welcoming the demands for grants pertaining to the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies. While supporting the demands I would like to give some important suggestions for the kind consideration of the Hon. Ministher.

As I had mentioned in my previous speech on the Ministry of Irrigation and Power, there was a time before independence when our country was importing foodgrains from foreign countries. After independence our country has entered into a new era of self-sufficiency. Our country in not only self-sufficient in foodgrains but also exporting them to several foreign countries. Of coures, this remarkable progress is this result of the devoted services and sound planning by our former Prime Minister Pondit Jawaharlal Nehru, Shri Lal Bahadur Shastri and Smt. Indira Gandhi. The credit goes to our young Prime Minister Shri Rajivji who has given an impetus to such progressive steps.

It is crystal clear that we have sufficient foodgrains. But the simple question before this august House is whether the foodgrains are distributed properly or not. I am sorry to say that the answer is in the negative. It is the small farmers who sweat throughout the day and produce foodgrains. The Food Corporation of India procures foodgrains from the farmers, stores and distributes. But, unfortunately the foodgrains are not reaching poor masses especially those who are below poverty line. The irony is that those who are feeding the country are not fed properly. There are many reasons for this. Public distribution system has failed in its objective. This system is working well in the urban areas but in the rural areas it has gone awary. Various essential items like sugar, edible oils, rice, wheat, kerosene oi etc. are not reaching the remote corners o' the country. The poor farmer is not getting the benefit of the above items. Neither the depots nor the cooperative societies have taken the responsibility of supplying the essential items in the villages. Even at the Government level there is no proper distribution system of quotas. They adopt different systems to allot quotas to rural and urban areas. The cities are forturate to get their full share. But the villages are getting about 1/10th only of the actual quota. They get their quota once in three or four months. There is a vast difference between villages and cities in respect of alloting foodgrains. Therefore I urge the Hon. Minister to set, right this imbalance and to help our poor people.

---

* The speech was originally delivered in Kannada.

My constituency, Chikkaballapura, is popular for the production of good variety of potato. This constituency is supplying potato not only to the whole of Karnatka State but also to various other States of our country. Infact, potatoes from this place are being exported to many foreign countries also. But I regret to state that we not have storage facilities. There are no godowns to store even the export quality potato. I request that proper arrangements of godowns may be made immediately to avoid colossal wastage.

As I had stated earlier, the cooperative sugar factory at Gowribidanur is closed for the last two years. Production of two lakh tonnes of sugar in a year has come to a halt. Lay off has been declared and thousands of workers are in the streets. There is scarcity of water and 800 to 1000 families are struggling for their livelihood. I plead with the Hon. Minister to instruct the Government of Karna taka to make immcdiate arrange ments to reopen the factory.

The most important point that I want to highlight is the prices given by the Food Corporation of India. There is no correlation between the prices of industrial goods and agricultural produce. While fixing the prices of agricultural produce it is very essential to look into the cost of inputs. All other fields like industry are flourishing with profits. But agriculture is lagging behind and the economic condition of the farmer is deteriorating day by day. The procurement price of paddy should be increased. Similarly the price given for sugar cane should also be enhanced. The farmer has to spend at least three thousand rupees to produce about thirty tonnes of sugarcane in one acre. At present the farmer is getting only 200 rupees per tonne. This may kindly be enhanced upto Rs. 300. The Govt. should treat agriculture also as an industry.

It will not be wrong if I say that cement is not at all reaching the villages. A small farmer has to wait for about eight months if he has to get 5 bags of cement for repairing his small house. If a villager is in need of 100 bags of cement for construction of a house, he has to wait at least for three to four years. On the other hand there is no shortage of crment for constructing multistoreyed buildings in the cities,

16.38 hrs.

[MR DEPUTR SPEAKER *in the chair*]

Even kerosene oil is not available properly to the poor farmcr. Many times he has to pay at least three rupees per litre. It is high time that Govt. should made proper arrangements for the distribution of important commodities like kerosene oil, sugar, cement etc. There should not be any disparity between urban and rural areas while alloting the quota. The public distribution system should be uniform in supplying essential commodities to one and all throughout the country.

More than 10% of the foodgrains go waste as there are no storage facilities especially in rural areas. Urgent arrangements have to be made for setting up godowns in villages and to save the precious foodgrains. I congratulate the Hon. Minister for this efforts to improve the distribution system. I thank you for giving me this opportunity to speak and with these words I conclude my speech.

SHRI R. P. SUMAN (Akbarpur) : Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am grateful to you for giving me an opportunity to speak on such an important subject. Sir, I rise to support the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies.

Sir, there are no two opinions on it that our present agricultural and food policy are so good that they have enabled our country to be self-sufficient in foodgrains and for this our Government and the Food Ministry deserve congratulations. Sir, these statistics speak for themselves that our production, whether it is wheat or rice, has considerably increased. If you take the current crop-year rice production rose by 60 lakh tonnes and wheat production by 23.6 tonnes. **Apart** from it, just see that the foodgrains production during the year 1983-84 has reached 1515.4 tonnes which is a record. If we compare it with last year's figures, an increase of 17 per cent has been registered. It shows that our management of agriculture is very good and that our Hon. Minister is doing his work conscientiously and is discharging his duty efficiently so far as our food and agricultural policy is concerned.

Sir, so far as the question of support price is concerned, I would like to submit to the Hon. Minister that this is very good and the arrangments made by him have also been good but, I would specifically like to draw the attention of Hon. Minister for a minute to the complaints being received from the rural areas about the trade, and the Government agencies through whom wheat is being purchased. Sir, so much bungling is taking place in these agencies that whatever wheat in brought by the farmer in the market, is not being purchased but is returned to the farmer on one pretext or the other. But when the same wheat is offered by the trader—the *banian*—then it is bought forth with. Sir, is this way the farmer is being exploited and he is helpless. He toils in the field to produce foodgrains but when he brings them in the market for selling, then he is exploited. This is his condition. So, I would like to draw the attention the of Hon. Minister towards this matter and request him to ensure that only those agencies make purchases from the farmers which are already engaged in this work and the purchases should not be allowed to be made by the intermediaries so that the farmer may be saved from exploitation.

Sir, it is a matter of pleasure that you were kind kind enough to enhance the support price of wheat and paddy, but I would like to make a submission that this may be reviewed further and the farmers should be paid a price for his produce keeping in view the cost of production so as to save him from exploitation. The farmers feel distressed on their being exploited. Such an arrrangement should be made in which there is no room for the farmer to make any sort of complaint.

Sir, I would like to make one more submission. In the report submitted to us, it has been mentioned clearly that the committees for the monitoring of the public distribution system at the district, block and tehsil levels are looking after the entire work. I would like to say that this is only on paper and there is no truth in it. There is no monitoring committee at the blocks and tehsils levels. At the district level also the committees consist of officers only and no importance is given to the representatives of the people in it. No meeting is called but only on paper it is mentioned that the meeting has been held. It has been wrongly mentioned in the report that the work is going on under the supervision of the Committees. The Hon. Minister *shauld* get the matter investigated. Where there is no monitoring committee in existence it should be formed there and where it is already functioning its work should be streamlined and the lacunae removed.

Previously in the rural area, only sugar was supplied through the public distribution system. This work was done through quotaholders. We used to say that they were not supplying sugar properly. But when we closely saw the difficulty being faced by them, we found that after drawing their quota of sugar from the godowns and selling it in the market they used to earn a profit of Rs. 1.18 plus an empty gunny bag per quintal. When pou fix a ceiling and say that a quota-holder can eary only a profit of Rs. 1.18 plus an empty gunny bag, per quintal of sugar then definitely he would resort to under hand dealings and in this way corruption would spread. So it is necessary that such an arrangement should be made by which they would not have to take recourse to corrupt practices.

Now, a new arrangement has been made to sell sugar through the cooperative societies. Previously there was some control on the sugar quotaholders but these societies are free from it After being drawn from the godowns, more than half of this sugar is diverted elsewhere before it reaches the centres of distribution and there is no check on this.

My constituency is Faizabad, Uttar Pradesh. There some action was taken in this matter. A pargana officer had taken action against a quotaholder of a Cooperative society and issued him an order in this regard. He refused to obey the order. The pargana officer informed the District Magistrate regarding this. The District Magistrate investigated into the matter and later on suspended him. You will be surprised to know that the A.R. wrote a strong letter to the District Magistrate in this connection and told him that he had no right to suspend their staff. There is no control on such matters and the whole quantity of sugar is being sold in the black-market. The policy of Gorvernment in respect of supplying sugar to the comman man is not proving to be a success.

Kerosene oil is not available in the interior parts of the villages. The poor Juggi-Jhompri dwellers have to pay Rs. 4 to 5 more in the black market for whatever little is available there. On the one hand they have to sell their wheat or paddy at lower rates and on the other hand when they go to the market to purchase kerosene oil, they have to buy it in the black market. This situation becomes unbearable for them, tears roll down their eyes and they feel terribly distressed, but there is no one to listen to their woes. There should be such fool proof arrangement under which the black marketing in the kerosene oil could also be checked.

It is a matter of great pleasure that it has been mentioned in the report that new licences will be issued for setting up of more sugar-mills. The Hon. Minister and his Ministry deserve congratuations for it. Previously, during the Janata regime, between 1977 and 1980, issuing new licences was discontinued. But after 1980, the matter was again reviewed by our Government and our Government have formulated a policy to issue new licences.

I would like to make a submission that the Central Government had given a licence to a sugar mill of my reserved area Akbarpur in Uttar Pradesh in 1974-75. The name of the mill is The Kisan Sahkari Cheeni Mills Limited, Akbarpur, Faizabad. An office of the mill was opened and it functioned for two years and the share capital of about Rs. 20 lakhs of the farmers is lying as deposit till today. In the meantime, Janata Party came to power at the Centre and it cancelled the licence of the mill. The State Government have again forwarded the case with their recommendation to the Ministry for action. As the Central Government have adopted a liberal policy with regard to issuing of new licences for sugar mills, I would like to say that this may be looked into, and taking into consideration the acute problem being faced by the sugarcane producers, this sugar mill may again be issued licence so that the problem of the farmers of that area may be solved.

You have laid down some conditions for issuing licences to new sugar mills. The new mill should be thirty kilometers from the existing unit and it should be in the cooperative sector. This sugar mill fulfils these conditions. So I would like to request you that this mill may again be granted a licence so that it may start functioning.

Mr. Deputy Speakar, Sir, as you are ringing the bell, I would not take much time. The Ministry of Food is doing a commendable job but I would like to draw your attention to the fact that the Harijans, Adivasis, members of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, who have remained backward for a thousand years, are being neglected even today. There are no two opinions about it that Government are paying attention towards it ceaselessly but your Ministry is not doing its work properly. I would like to cite an example on the basis of a Report of the F.C.I. submitted by you. As per the Report, out of the reservation quota prescribed, upto 1st January 1985, in group A scheduled castes 4.82 per cent and scheduled tribes 3.61 per cent, in temporary posts, scheduled castes 12.40 per cent, scheduled tribes 4.65 per cent, and in group B scheduled castes 10.93 per cent, scheduled tribes 1.09 per cent in temporary posts, scheduled castes 17.42 per cent, scheduled tribes 2.79 per cent posts have been filled up. Similarly in group C, scheduled castes 18.24 per cent, scheduled tribes 0.48 per cent, in temporary posts, scheduled castes 17.53 per cent, scheduled tribes 5.05 per cent posts have been filled up. This shows that in your reservation policy, sufficient attention is not being paid towards Harijans, Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes.

I am particularly drawing your attention towards it because these people have been victims of red-tapism from the very begining at the hands of your department and officers. Even today excesses are being committed on Harijans. As shown in the figures given by you, in group 'D' in which permanent and temporary appointments have been made the labour force engaged in clearing operations of grains which include women also have been included in the figures. But in gtoup A, B, C, you have not filled the reservation quota. In this way they are not being meted out justice. The Hon. Minister should tell us when he will consider the matter and do justice unto them. In this context, I recollect some couplets—

> "Aah ko chaheeye ik umra asar hone tak,
>
> Kaun jeeta hai tere zulf ke sar hone tak,
>
> Hamne mana keh tagaful na Karoge lekin,
>
> Khanak ho jaenge hum tum ko khabar hone tak".

If you pursue the present policy, nobody will be able to say when these people are going to be benefited. You should bring about an end to this exploration which is going on and fill up the reservation quota so that there is no scope left for any more complaint.

All facts regarding rice mills have been mentioned in the Report. The eastern region of Uttar Pradesh which is very backward area includes Faizabad also. Tanda tehsil in Faizabad falls in my contsiuency. At present, the district has been made the unit for Central subsidy. According to that scheme the Central Government grant subsidy to the rice mills which are set up there. I have come to know two days ago that Tanda tehsil, which is a backward area has not been included in the scheme and hence the people of that tehsil have been deprived of the benefits of that scheme This has happened as the District and not the Tehsil has been taken as a unit for Central subsidy. I would request Government to reconsider the whole issue and implement the scheme in Tanda Tehsil so that this area may also develop.

With these words I congratulate your Ministry and support the demands. Further, I would like to submit that you should see whether the policy formulated by you is being implemented properly or not so that there is no scope for any complaints. When we go to the villages, the people there ask for the report. After reading the report they praise it, but when they quote figures, we are put to shame. So it is necessary that what ever policy you formulate, that should be implemented in right earnest so that the people may not get an opportunity to say that although you have formulated a sound policy, yet it is not being implemented properly. I would, therefore, like to request the Hon. Minister to look into these matters particularly. He should get the policies implemented properly and put a check on the bureancracy which is not allowing the policies to be implemented properly.

I would like to make one more submission. In the budget, imports on some essential items have been levied upto two or four paise but on the contrary in the villages, their prices have been increased not by two or four paise only but by two to four rupees. You should come with a heavy hand to stop this loot and also conduct raids and arrest the traders indulging in black-marketing. Strict action should be taken against them to ensure proper implementation of the policies of Government.

SHRI LALITESHWAR SHAHI (Muzaffarpur): Mr. Deputy Speaker, Sir, I would like to submit only two or three points with regard to the Demands placed before the House. All the people know that the prices of sugar are rising these days. What is the mystery behind it ? At present, the crushing season is in full swing and the last factory would close its operation in July and when crushing would be over in July, there would be a stock of one million tonnes of free sale sugar. Last year, 3,80,000 tonnes of sugar continued to be released for free sale every month. But when the release of free sale sugar was reduced, naturally, the people looked towards the stock and thought that if the stock declined, the prices would rise. The demand for sugar is met by the release of both the free-sale as well the levy sugar and if the quota of one category is reduced, it would affect the price of the other category. That is why the prices are rising.

So far as the Food Corporation of India is concerned, I would like to narrate one incident. Last year, I was participating in an international conference and when I told them that there was an undertaking in our country which procured surplus foodgrains and supplied them as and when the need arose, they liked this idea very much and one of the participants asked why such an arrangement was not made for the entire world whereby the surplus foodgrains could be procured and thereafter supplied in these areas where there was demand. This is a very good idea, but perhaps its implementation would not be so easy.

You will find that in our country the production of wheat increased after we started fixing its support price, because the farmers felt that whatever be their produce, that would be purchased by Government. Our Supply Minister was Agriculture Minister earlier. I would like to express my thanks to him as the prices fixed during the last few years due to his efforts had benefited the farmers and had also helped in increasing the production of foodgrains. Today. we have a stock of 22 million tonnes. But, in my view, we have reached a stage where, in place of the subsidy of Rs. 1100 crores that we are giving, we would have to think of making some permanent arrangement with other countries so as to maintain our procurement at the present level. Politics is also playing a role in the matter of food today. The countries supplying foodgrains take political advantage of the situation. It appears that we would have to import petroleum and fertilisers from other countries even now. It would, therefore, be better if we increase our food production and make some long-term arrangement with other countries. It would be better for the farmers also.

17.00 hrs.

I would like to bring one more point to the notice of the Hon. Minister and that is the heavy establishment cost of the Food Corporation of India. Rs. 45 per quintal are spent by the Food Corporation of India on storage and again Rs. 42 are spent by the State Food Corporation and thereafter the food grains are supplied to the small dealers for distribution. Thus, the prices are increased by Rs. 87 to Rs. 90 by the two corporations. The farmers are paid a price of Rs. 150 per quintal. You should look into this matter, to reduce the expenses. The farmers are paid Rs. 150 per quintal and Rs. 90 are spent on transportation and storage. It appears to be excessive expenditure and Government also gives subsidy.

During the year 1976-77, the Food Corporation of India had made efforts to augment the storage capacity. A number of food storage godowns were opened in the private sector also, for which the world Bank had provided the assistance and the State Bank had provided loan at 11 per cent interest, repayable in nine years. If any such scheme is launched, it would be a very good thing. The Food Corporation incurs more expenditure in its scheme than that incurred by private godowns. At present there is a stock of 22 millions tonnes of foodgrains, most of which is lying in the open. If they are kept in warehouses, the foodgrains would remain in good condition. Keeping in view the interest of the country, the storage capacity should be increased, regularly every year so that the storage capacity of food grains could also be increased. It is also necessary that desciptive be brought about in the Food Corporation of India. You should consider the measures through which it could be brought about. Only those persons who deal with it can give you the true, picture of the Food Corporation of India.

So far as kerosene oil is concerned, the prices of the kerosene oil supplied from Dum Dum, and from Barauni and from the Mathura refinery differ. When there is so much variation in the prices of kerosene oil, how can the consumer come to know from which place the kerosene has been supplied ? You have to consider this aspect as well. In addition, is it proper that the village shopkeepers should be given so much quota that they are not able to transport it in their bullock carts and the entire quota is thus sold during transit ?

I would like to say one more thing about storage. There are many cold storages in the country. Some cold storages were constructed earlier and some of them have been erected later on and some of them are being constructed even now. The cold storages which are being constructed at present involve heavy cost. As more money is spent on their construction, more storage charges are realised for them. As a result, the old warehouses also charge more money. You should look towards this aspect also. The cold storages are insured. Their equipment, building, machines and every thing belonging to cold storage are insured, but the agricultural products stored therein are not insured, could such an arrangement not be made under which the potato kept in the cold storage could also be insured, for which 50 paise could be realised extra as cold storage charges? In this way, a fund could be created for providing compensation to the farmers for their farm products which are damaged due to non-availability of power. As there is no arrangement for getting compensation, the farmers feel difficulties. Such an arrangement should, therefore, be made whereby the farmers could get compensation for their agricultural products in case of damage to them.

I would like to draw the attention of the Hon. Minister towards one more point. Just now an Hon. Member, Smt. Geeta Mukherjee, had said that even if vegetables were sold at the rate of Rs. 5/ or Rs. 8/ per kilo the farmer did not get more than one to one and a half rupee per kilo. All the profit is pocketed by the middlemen. The vegetables are sold at a price which is fixed by the middlemen, but the farmer does not get any profit. It is also necessary that some action should be taken in this regard.

With these suggestion, I support these Demands for Grants and request the Hon. Minister that he should take action on the points to which I have drawn his attention.

———

17.06 hrs.

STATEMENT-RE : INCIDENT AT AMRITSAR ON 19th APRIL, 1985.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (Shri S.B. CHAVAN) : Sir, it is with a deep sense of sorrow and anguish that I have to inform this House regarding the attempt made on the life of Shri R.L. Bhatia, Ex. Member of Parliament, at his residence at Amritsar, on 19th April, 1985, at about 8.45 A.M. resulting in serious injuries to him and the death of another person namely Shri Virendra Kumar. who had come to meet him. According to details received from the Government of Punjab, two un-identified Sikh youths fired at Shri R.L. Bhatia and at Shri Virendra Kumar. Shri Bhatia received three bullet injuries on the left jaw, right side of the neck and on the back of the right shoulder. He was removed to the hospital where he was operated upon. He is now reported to be out of danger. Shri Virendra Kumar who received bullet injuries succumbed to his injuries. The culprits after committing the crime managed to escape. Immediately on receiving information about this incident senior Police Officers rushed to the site of the incident and organised intensive combing operations for apprehending the culprits. These efforts are being pursued vigorously. About 70 persons have been rounded up for interrogation.

2. It is unfortunate that Shri Bhatia who was provided with a gunman for his personal security since 27th April, 1984, returned the gunman on 4th December, 1984, informing that he did not need his services.

3. As the Hon'ble Members are aware that Government has accorded the highest priority to the maintenance of law and order to check the terrorist activities in Punjab and also to find a solution to the problem. As, against 827 violent incidents during the first half of 1984 resulting in the death of 360 persons, there were 427 such incidents during the second half of 1984, in which 77 persons lost their lives. During the current year upto 19.4.1985 there were 135 violent incidents in which 11 persons died. As a result of the constant endeavour of the authorities to further check such activities in the State, over 1700 extremists were arrested in criminal cases from January 1984 to March, 1985.

4. It is unfortunate that after the releases of Akali leaders. some of them have chosen to indulge in intemperate statements. These statements have certainly not helped in advancement towards normalcy in Punjab. There have also been disturbing reports regarding the propaganda being carried out by Ragis and religious preachers at congregations organised in religious places in the State.

5. The Government shares the concern of the Hon'ble Members about the activities extremists. The Government has already announced the holding of a Judicail Inquiry into the allegations with regard to the incidents of organised violence in Delhi following

the assassination of the late Prime Minister, Smt. Indra Gandhi, lifting of the ban on the All India Sikh Students Federation, and review of the cases of persons held in detention with a view to make further releases. It is unfortunate experience that whenever efforts are underway for finding any solution, extremists in Punjab indulge in violent activities in order to impede progress of these efforts.

6. The Government is fully alive to the situation. Various measures have been taken to contain terrorist activities. These include police protection to known targets of the extremists, identification of sensitive areas, intensive police patrolling, recovery of illicit arms and ammunition by organising special raids and combing operations, extensive checks in vulnerable areas, strengthening of police machinery and streamlining of the intelligence set up. The situation in the State is under constant watch and is being regularly reviewed at the highest level.

7. Hon'ble Members would agree that terrorist activities have no place in a democracy and that issues must be resolved through discussions only. I am sure that the House will agree that terrorism and violence should not be allowed to have a premium in resolving disputes, and will join me in condemning acts of violence. I seek the cooperation of Members and leaders of various parties and groups in maintaining conditions of peace in the State.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntum): And the Press also.

17.11 hrs.

STATEMENT-RE : REPORTED STAY OF SHRI DEEDAR SINGH BAINS AND YOGI HARBHAJAN SINGH IN THE RASHTRAPATI BHAVAN IN 1983.

[*English*]

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (Shri S.B. CHAVAN): Sir, During the debate in the House on 18th April, 1985 Shri K.K. Tewari mentioned that Shri Deedar Singh Bains and Yogi Harbhajan Singh had stayed as guests in the Rashtrapati Bhavan in 1983. President's Secretariat have informed the Home Ministry that these two persons had not stayed in the Rashtrapati Bhavan at any time.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur): A very serious situation has developed in Gujarat. A police man has been lynched. The High Court has banned the entry of the Police into certain areas and according to my information, the Policemen have refused to work. I demand the Home Minister should make a statement on this matter.

(*Interruptions*)

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER: After collecting the information he will make the statement.

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S.B. CHAVAN): I will collect the information and if I succeed in getting all the information required, possibly tomorrow I will be able to make a statement.

DEMANDS FOR GRANTS (GENERAL) 1985-86—*Contd.*

[*English*]

Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies—*Contd.*

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES (RAO BIRENDRA SINGH): I have heard with very great interest the discussion on the Demands for Grants of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies. Nearly 20 Hon. Members have taken part in the discussion. I am grateful for their interest in the important work this Ministry has undertaken.

While most of the criticism from the Hon. Members was very constructive and has benefited me a lot, some members unfortunately showed a sense of frustration, thought lessness and cynicism. They could see nothing right with the functioning of the public distribution system. Not only the opposition benches but some Hon. Members on this side also resorted to all round condemnation of the functioning of the Civil Supplies Department, the Food Department and its activities. My dear friend, Mr. Daga, as usual, has been one of them.

I was very greatly amused to hear Shri Dora who initiated the debate. He raised a very unseemly controversy about our central laws which have been enacted by this Parliament. He raised the question of Centre-State relations even while we were discussing only the demands for the year 1985-86 of this Ministry which is only one of the many Ministries in the Centre and the Demands also are not of a very high order as regards the sums required.

Sir, everybody would agree that in a large country with a very large percentage of our population under the poverty line needs some mechanism to check rising prices, to stop malpractices and manipulations by unscrupulous traders and the only way that it can be done is to employ a public agency to have an alternate trade channel for supply of essential commodities to the people at reasonable prices. I am glad that government and the nation has accepted that our public distribution system will be a permanent feature. It figures in the 20-point programme of our late Prime Minister. Our Prime Minister, Shri Rajiv Gandhi, has pledged himself to see that the 20-point programme is speedily implemented. Opening of fair price shops even in the remotest areas, in the tribal areas, mountaineous areas and supply of essential commodities at reasonable prices to all sections of the people—particularly the vulnerable sections—has been guaranteed.

Sir, you would know that Article 369 of the Constitution which was mentioned by Mr. Dora was only a transitional measure. At that time it gave powers to the Central government for a period of five years in respect of trade in certain commodities including food stuffs, oilseeds and edible oils but then in the year 1954 before this five year period expired through the Constitution (third amendment) Act entry 33 was incorporated in the Constitution and it was under that power given to the Parliament by the Constitution that the Essential Commodities Act was enacted in the year 1955. This was to give powers to Parliament to make laws relating to trade and commerce in various essential commodities including foodstuffs, edible oils and oilseeds.

SHRI H. A. DORA (Srikakulam) : Is this entry 33 not in direct conflict with Article 369 ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : My friend is mis-interpreting the whole thing. I think if he calmly studies the Constitution and the debates in Parliament at the time when these laws were enacted then he would rightly understand the situation.

Similarly, under the Constitution (forty second amendment) Act the powers for enforcing weights, measures and standards were brought under the Concurrent List. Mr. Dora even objected to that. After the Weights, Measures and Standards Act was passed by Parliament in 1976 we still left the powers for enforcement through their own legislations to the States. But, unfortunately, not many States took any action.

It was only the small States and Union Territories, mostly Union Territories and smaller States—which passed any legislation. And therefore in 1979 a meeting which was held with the States' representatives, unanimously decided that there should be uniformity of law in regard to this important matter : and that Parliament should enact such a law.

That is why we have now already introduced a legislation in the Rajya Sabha to enforce the Standard of Weights and Measures Act of 1976.

I am saying this, because, I thought that I should clarify the position because, there might be unnecessary controversy and apprehension in the minds of people after Mr. Dora's speech during this discussion. (*Interruptions*). There is the Essential Commodities Act. There is the Essential Commodities (Special Provisions) Act, which was enacted in 1981. It was done only to regulate all these things, to prescribe punishment, maintenance of quality, Quality control, for prevention of hoarding and blackmarketing, to provide for displaying of prices on the packages, etc. So, it is under these Acts, —the Essential Commodities Act and the Prevantion of Blackmarketing and Maintenance Supplies of Essential Commodities Supply Act—that we have been asking the States again and again to enforce the laws and to bring to book the traders who indulge in these bad practices.

Shri Kasi Jaleel Abbaasi agreed that there has been a large number of raids conducted—2,69,386 was the figure—and the arrests were only 8,860 and then the convictions were only 1094. But, then, I do not know what the Central Government can do about it. This is under the powers of the State Government. They have their various Qazis. They are upon us. So, people are prosecuted and then acquitted. You cannot blame the Central Government for it and not the States. Similarly, a very large number of people have been detained during the year ending 31 March, 1985. Those earlier figures were for the calender year 1984. As many as 790 persons were detained but then most of them were released by Tribunals by the State Governments.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY (Midnapore) : Most of them are small people.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : ... and some of them are absconders. But, 19 are still under detention out of these. But this shows that the Governments—both at the Centre and in the States—are very keen that blackmarketing should stop, and the people concerned should be punished.

(*Interruptions*)

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : You leave off the bigger people and only catch hold of the smaller people.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : How are the bigger ones being left off you catch hold of them in West Bengal.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Though we catch them, you will let them off.

[*English*]

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Your State Government of West Bengal has refused to adopt this Prevention of Blackmarketing Act.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : They do not want to arrest any person without trial.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : That only shows ...

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : They have arrested many persons ...

PROF. N. G. RANGA (Guntur) : They have not.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : They are opposed to arrest of persons without trial.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : That shows many things without my saying anything to you. But then some other States have taken effective steps—States like U.P., Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat, Maharashtra, etc.

They have taken effective steps. We want other States also to follow suit.

SHRI AJAY MUSHRAN (Jabalpur) : If the West Bengal Government wants to help the blackmarketeers, why do you object ?

SHRI GIRDHARI LAL VYAS (Bhilwara) : If you don't enforce the Act in West Bengal, you will get fund.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : All this money has been collected for your election fund.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Your collection of money in West Bengal is much more than ... (*Interruptions*).

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : Let the Hon. Minister continue his speech.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : So Sir' You will see how successful the Government's policies have been in the matter of increasing agricultural production which gives us the most needed commodities, essential commodities like foodgrains, sugar and edible oil. The position today is so comfortable that the whole world has praised our efforts in this matter.

SHRI AMAL DATTA (Diamond Harbour) : Excepting yourself, who is praising ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I do not know if you are born not to see the reality.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : You are saying so and you have to prove it.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Sir, the stock of foodgrains stand at around 22 million tonnes. This is 6 million tonnes more than the last year stock-position during the same time and it has been increasing from year to year. That clearly shows the happy position. You have failed to accept it and you are not admitting that agricultural production in this country has jumped up. But some of your friends don't.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Everybody accepts that, but still large number of persons are without food. That is a fact.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : The procurement itself is a proof. As against 8.3 million tonnes of wheat procured in the previous year, the current year's procurement has been 9.3 million tonnes, that is, 10 lakh tonnes more than the previous year. Therefore, 10 lakh tonnes is the increase in one year in procurement. Rice has been one of our main concern. The procurement of rice as also production of rice had not increased substantially during the previous year. But the way we have increased both now, can be seen from the figures of procurement of rice. Against 78.30 lakh tonnes of rice procured last year, the current year's procurement of rice stands at 90.37 lakh tonnes. This is in terms of rice. You could not have imagined six months back that rice also would be procured, that is, 9 million tonnes or so. That shows that the rice production is also going up in the country, even in States which were lagging behind including the eastern States. The present rabi prospects are also good. The procurement has started very well. As against only 9,000 tonnes procured last year, in the last rabi crop season, our procurement in the current year is 2.94 lakh tonnes. Last year it was only 9,000 tonnes, that is, on 20th April 1984.

This year on 20th of April, i.e. in the current month, 2.94 lakh tonnes has already been procured and that gives us hopes that our stocks will be further built up. We might have some difficulty in storing and that is why we can afford to be liberal with our policies and we can relax some of the controls, which have probably not been welcomed by certain sections of the people, including the traders and these controls to some extent, have even gone against the interests of the farmers. That is why we have relaxed these controls. Shri Vyas objected to it. He said that it might create difficulties in future. But, we know that our foodgrains stock in July or within a month or so, might rise upto 27 million tonnes and we know that we do not have enough storage area. If we store large quantities of foodgrains all in the open, then it is very likely to be damaged. That is why we have removed all restrictions on movement of stocks. Traders can buy as they like. They can store it. The millers can it in the open market. And Sir, for the first time in the history of this country, India is today a wheat-exporting country. We already have a contract for supply of five lakh tonnes of wheat to Soviet Union.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Price ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Price is good. But you would not like us to sell at a very high price to the Soviet Union. Would you ?

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : That depends on what we buy from them.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : We have also allowed export of wheat through private trade, if they can do it. Government to Government sale would be through FCI. But if private trade also can find market, upto one million tonnes of wheat can be exported by traders on 'first come, first serve' basis.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Is it through OGL ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : OGL, in a way. Everybody is not allowed. Under the regulations framed by the Ministry of Commerce, people who can find it possible to export, they can contract, locate the market, apply and then get their licence for exports. Similarly, in the matter of wheat products, namely, *atta*, *maida*, *suji*, we are now...

[*Translation*]

SHRI K. J. ABBASI (Domanaganj) : It may also be made clear whether you would make direct procurement from the farmers or you would leave it to others ..

[*English*]

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : We are committed to buy all surplus at the minimum announced support price.

[*Translation*]

SHRI K. J. ABBASI : You do not have warehousing facilities, if you do not procure, the farmers could sell their foodgrains to others...

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : We shall not leave it. If you like, we would go even to their houses to procure foodgrains and we do not have any intermediary or Commission Agent in U.P. There we make direct purchases from the farmers. Wherever we purchase foodgrains, we declare that area as a 'Mandi' area and in this way we have opened thousands of centres for procuring foodgrains.

[*English*]

This is not only to earn foreign exchange, but it will also help the farmers to get a higher price. There would be more than one agency in the market to purchase the foodgrains produced by farmers and they will get a better price. There will be competition amongst purchasers and consumers will also be benefited. There will be so much of *atta*, *maida* and *suji* produced by mills on account of this relaxation and freedom given to them to purchase in the open market. Also, this facility already given to them from FCI for supply, will continue. That will mean more availability of *suji*, *maida* and *atta*. That will bring down the prices, and quality is bound to improve. So, these are the measures which have been possible on account of our good stock position.

Same is the story about other things. (*interruptions*) There has been criticism about inadequate production of pulses and edible oils. But then you have to compare the production today with production five years back. We have steadily been increasing it. For instance, take oilseeds. Their production was about 93 lakh tonnes in the year 1980-81. Last year it has been 128 lakh tonnes, and the current year's target is about 130 lakh tonnes. So, from 93 lakh tonnes to 130 lakh tonnes is not a bad increase.

Similarly about pulses. Pulses' production last year has been about 12.6 million tonnes, and that has also increased substantially. But there are constraints. As you know, these are crops which are cultivated in inferior lands, without assured irrigation. The incidence of diseases and pests is also much more. They need better plant protection measures, and various other things. But it is through higher production in foodgrains that inspite of prices going up during the last few years, foodgrain prices have not kept pace. They have kept down.

I would not like to waste the time of the House with figures, but if you are interested, I could give them. The prices of cereals, particularly, have shown a decline over the last year; in fact, over the last two years, upto March 1985. But in 1985 after Budget presentation on account of freight increase and duty increase, there has been a little rise but there also, in the case of cereals, the prices had not gone up as in the case of other commodities. The All Commodities Wholesale Price Index has gone up by about 1.4% in the two weeks following the presentation of the Budget, but not so in the case of cereals.

PROF. N.G. RANGA (Guntur) : Paddy growers are suffering like anything.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : They are getting good prices.

PROF. N.G. RANGA : No.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Rs. 137/- is not a bad price, Prof. Ranga.

The Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies, as some Hon. Member remarked, runs only on better coordination, better cooperation from the States, and better cooperation even of the representatives of the people in Parliament. There are complaints of corruption, malpractices, hoarding and higher prices being charged but then, there must be a feedback; and that is why I would request Hon. Members to come to our help, and send us specific complaints if anything wrong comes to their notice. We have already created a Grievances Cell in the Ministry of Civil Supplies. If you come across any instance of prices not being printed on the pack—which is compulsory and mandatory—and if you see that the weight is not given, or if you see that the date of manufacture is not given on anything, you should bring it to Government's notice, because you can directly approach us, or write to us. We want similar Cells to be set up. The Ministry of Civil Supplies, in fact, is practically a Ministry for Consumer Protection. It distributes edible oils, but the enforcement of the law is through the State Government. This is the difficulty, but it is for us to try and get over this difficulty.

AN HON. MEMBER : We will bring it to your notice and you can forward it to the State Government.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Not that. We have appointed area officers if there are any complaint of a serious nature, we have decided that a senior officer from the Ministry will go to the spot; he will take with him district officers, make them see things for themselves and take action on the spot. Of course, the prosecution will have to be launched by the State Government. But then we shall keep an eye. Then we are also trying to take samples here and there and get them tested in the laboratory of the Indian Standard Institute or in the Food Ministry Laboratory so that we can know where things are sub-standard. The same goes for edible oil, foodgrains and other consumer goods.

Mr. Choubey has been very constructive in his criticism today. I do not know why. He must have got good rice in the morning to eat.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Supplied by your Department.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Yes.

SHRI AMAL DATTA : What we eat in Calcutta and what we eat in Delhi, there is a lot of difference. We only want this rice to go there.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : We shall try to improve it.

SHRI ZAINUL BASHER (Ghazipur) : Bengal, price is better than Punjab rice.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Mr. Choubey and some other Hon. Members also suggested that action should be taken to improvise some system, some mechanism, some government machinery to check these things, to enforce laws even at the central level. Now we know that most of the consumer goods do not bear any ISI mark. You would be surprised to know that in our country even the standard of thermameter is not correct, it can show wrong temperature and the patient may continue under medication upto the time of his death. Similarly, blood pressure gauges and other things. These are very small things. But you have not been able to pay attention to these things so far. We now intend to take effective steps to see that consumer goods selectively are brought under ISI compulsory standard mark. Once it is done, the quality will be ensured and under the Essential Commodities Act, people can be punished and prosecuted—manufacturers and traders—as it has been done in the case of many other commodities. Some time back, we brought threshers which the farmers use under the Essential Commodities Act and standard was applied. So these are some of the steps that we are taking, we are also thinking of statutory consumer protection councils. At present, we have a consumer protection council, just a council, advisory council, more or less, which the Minister presides over and Ministers of States are also members, but that is only for purposes of bringing about some uniformity in thinking, in the State Legislatures, in the measures for enforcement and various other things. These are small matters which we always keep in mind.

Hon. Members have given many other valuable suggestions. I would not have time to deal with individually every suggestion from every Hon. Member, but there are certain things about which general observations have been made. For instance, the quality of foodgrains supplied. Three or four Hon. Members spoke from Kerala—Mr. Vijayaraghavan, Mr. T. Basheer and Mr. Basavaraj and again complaint was about Punjab par boiled rice supplied to Kerala. Now, we would like very much to give rice from Andhra Pradesh to Kerala if they prefer Andhra Pradesh rice. But the difficulty is that Andhra Pradesh does not procure enough rice for us to distribute even to meet the requirement of Kerala. The total procurement in Andhra Pradesh is around 15 lakh tonnes. Out of that, they want us to give them back 10 lakh tonnes; and only 5 lakh tonnes of rice is left for distribution for Kerala.

SHRI MURLI DEORA (Bombay South): What I stated the other day is this. We demanded 32 lakh tonnes to be procured.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : But your procurement is all given to the control pool. You have made it a condition that you will only leave five lakh tonnes for the central pool and take ten lakh tonnes back, because it involves subsidy. You want to take advantage of that.

Now, Kerala's requirement is 110 thousand tonnes a month, which comes to more than 13 lakh tonnes in the year. Now even if we give all these five lakh tonnes to Kerala, where do we get these eight lakh tonnes ? From other States ? That is why we cannot do without Punjab rice, without Haryana rice, if Kerala's needs are to be mat. That is the difficulty. But we have already taken a decision that Punjab rice, if it is hard to boil, takes longer time, will not be purchased, and it will not be supplied to Kerala. They can get some other rice, and we will make some other arrangements.

AN HON. MEMBER : What about the supply of paddy to Kerala ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Paddy to Kerala ? For what ? For milling ? All the way from Punjab to Kerala ? We are finding it difficult even on account of the constrains on the railways, to send the monthly allocations to State like Kerala and to the North-Eastern region. Now, paddy wants much more space.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : At one time, in our State paddy was supplied.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : There is the difficulty of transport.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : That was not a wise decision earlier if it was done. That is all I can say. It is not very easy to handle paddy in open wagons; and then you have to set up rice mills in West Bengal.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : We have.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Have you ? Then you are milling your own rice. That should be enough to run the mills.

There is a demand from Hon. Members, particularly from Andhra Pradesh and some other Members also have supported it, that Kerala and Andhra Pradesh should be allowed to purchase rice from traders in other States.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : Bengal also !

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I am sorry, I cannot agree to a thing like this because of our difficulty.

SHRI H. A. DORA : You can do through the State Trading Corporation.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : Not even through the State Trading Corporation or any other State agency. If they go in for bulk purchase of rice in some other States that will upset the whole market.

SHRI H. A. DORA : How ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : That is because they will purchase in large quantity rice and the rice available from the market will not be left there. The prices will go up. Rice will be purchased by Kerala or by West Bengal, and then how will the Andhrites get their rice under the NTR scheme at Rs. 1 a k.g. ?

SHRI H. A. DORA : Rangaji is conspicuously silent on this point. He is not expressing his opinion.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : He agree with me.

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : He does not agree with you.

He has kept quiet because he belongs to your party. (*Interruptions*)

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I do not know why Andhra Pradesh should need any rice from outside. Their production is more than 85 lakh tonnes. Andhra Pradesh is a surplus State in rice. But you want to benefit your traders there. The same is the case with your State, Sir. There it is even worse. They do not countributed anything to the Central Pool. How can we manage our food policy if the States do not cooperate ? Yet every Hon. Member from Tamil Nadu wants more rice allocated to Tamil Nadu. Tamil Nadu should manage its own affairs if they do not want to give anything to the Central Pool. But they are getting 25,000 tonnes of rice a month from the Central Pool without giving it even a grain That has been my contention with them for the last five years. But they have not come round. I do not know what to do about it except to try and give them as much as we can give. Andhra Pradesh is getting 80,000 tonnes per month from the Central Pool. Amongst the surplus States Andhra Pradesh gets the highest allocation of rice every month. And yet there is a complaint. How can you justify that ?

SHRI H. A. DORA : That is not correct. You are procuring 15 lakh tonnes of rice from Andhra Pradesh and giving it only 10 lakh tonnes for its requirement. But our requirement is 22 lakh tonnes for jails, social welfare hostels, etc. That has already been presented to the Government of India.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : They have asked for increasing the levy to 75 per cent. That also cannot be agreed to because if 75 per cent levy is allowed, then there will be a little left for the market in Andhra Pradesh itself. Again, they want their Civil Supplies Carporation also to be made an agency for procurement like the FCI. It is a very unreasonable demand. How can we allow two agencies under the Central laws for procurement purposes ? That will upset the whole thing completely.

PROF. N. G. RANGA : Can you not make them as your agent ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : That is what they want. But they do not give us anything.

An Hon. Member has said that the Brazilian sugar is not very good for health. He knows that we have imported very fine sugar with 99.8 per cent increase saccharose. So there is no question of its not being sweet. If he does not feel so, then there is something wrong with the taste of the Hon. Member who said it from the other side. Sweetness depends on sucrose content.

Another wrong notion continues in the minds of some friends that sugarcane prices have been fixed at Rs. 14 per quintal. This statutory minimum price for sugarcane is for purposes of fixing the levy sugar price, 65 per cent that we take from the mills, but the price bring paid by the mills ranges from Rs. 20 to even Rs. 24 and Rs. 25 per quintal in different States according to the States, advised price. Therefore, the price being paid for sugar is not low as thought by some Hon. Members.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA (Robertsganj) : It is not being given in time. I mean, the dues are not paid in time.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : We have already readuced the arrears. If you like, I might give the figures. Arrears on 28.2.1984 were 25.8 per cent. At this time of the year, when the mills are still running and there is time to pay, but this year on the same date, it is only 16.3 per cent. As against Rs. 190 crores which were in arrears last year, this year the arrears are Rs. 133 crores only. And for previous years, it is a very small figure.

[*Translation*]

SHRI NARAYAN CHOUBEY : These figures are not correct.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I have given correct figures.

[*English*]

For earlier years before 1982, the outstanding amount is only Rs. 12 crores for the whole country. So, we have brought down the arrears substantially and we always constantly keep a check on it. But it may not be liked if I say it is for the States to look after themselves. It is for them to monitor it.

There was a question raised about some sugar mill. Mr. Tripathi said Jaiporia mills were not running and they were closing down and heavy arrears are there on them. I have checked up and found that there are some arrears in those mills and nothing abnormal is there.

About prices, Hon. Members have show some concern. I have mentioned it that the price rise in some essential commodities is not so high, particularly, the prices of foodgrains have been declining. They had a rising trend in the past but we always keep on eye over them.

Shrimati Geeta Mukherjee mentioned about brinjals and *bhindis* and all that but she forgot to mention about potatoes and onions (*Interruptions*). Most important vegetables are going very cheap. You should eat them, they are in plenty.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : From now onwards we will eat only potatoes.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : No, no, alternatively. One day onions and the next day potatoes.

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Very good. How nice it is to come to Delhi and sell... (*Interruptions*).

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : We are aware that the prices of vegetables are high and we shall see what can we do in this connection. We shall contact the Delhi Civil Supplies Corporation, the Super Bazar and other places. But if the Hon. lady Member will agree with me, this consumer protection should be led by women (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI GEETA MUKHERJEE : Yes, all cooperation.

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : And you should open cooperative stores in the M.Ps' residential areas.

I will now mention a few things briefly. We are taking certain steps to improve our public distribution system. We have already given instructions that the consumers should be able to purchase their month's ration at one time so that they do not have to go again and again to the shop. As many items of distribution as possible should be available from one shop so that they do not have to run from shop to shop. They should be made viable. Then, we are also contacting the other Ministries like the Petroleum Ministry to see that kerosene reaches these shops and it is properly distributed so that it is not diverted to industry.

18.00 hrs.

It goes to the weaker sections of the people. They get their fair quota. Similarly sugar should reach the most interior places. More fair price shops should be opened as suggested by the Hon. Members in rural and tribal areas at the rate of one shop per two thousand population at least. The STC also has been instructed to see that edible oil does not reach the States in small consignments or in small quantities. It should be possible for it to arrange bulk supplies for toe whole month's requirements to the State so that there is no shortage and no artificial shortage can be created and there is no over-charging.

There is another thing which I am worried about Hon Members would probably like to see what they can do about it. We supply foodgrains at fixed and same rates to all the States in all parts of the country. For instance we supply wheat at Rs. 172/- and one kind of rice at Rs. 220 and another kind at Rs. 230 a quintal and so no. But then the retail prices charged are sometimes very high. That does not given any benefit to the consumers. We have to spend as much as Rs. 1104 crores to Rs. 1200 crores and may be even more on subsidy for distribution of foodgrains. Therefore, we have time and again suggested that the difference between the issue price of FCI and the retail price from the Fair Price Shops should not be more than Rs. 15 per quintal, i.e. 15 P. per k. g. I hope the States will see that this is observed. Same is the case of edible oil. We supply imported edible oil in bluk at Rs. 8/—per k. g. and some states are charging Rs. 12.50 or even Rs. 14/- a k.g. Now, where does the consumer get the benefit ? Similarly paked edible oil. We supply it at Rs. 9.50 per k.g. and some States are charging even Rs. 4/-more. Take the case of Tamil Nadu. It is charging Rs. 2.60 p. above our issue price. That is most unreasonable. They like to increase the revenue of their States from the packet of the consumers and then the whole idea of public distribution system helping the weakers sections becomes absolutely unworkable and is frustrated. We have already suggested that prices should be fixed slightly higher. We are suggesting a level of prices slightly higher for hilly, mountanous and hard to reach areas. For the plains it will be a different price. It will be different for packed oil; it will be different for bulk oil sold through retail shops in the open. These are some of the things which I thought I should mention to Hon. Members.

But as you say usually the money that my Ministry requires is not a very large amount. I am thankful to the members, who have been kind enough to suggest that more finances should have been made available for construction of godowns and other things, for CWC and for assistance to Civil Supplies Corporations. The Seventh Plan is being formulated and we shall see what comes out of it. We shall certainly consider your suggestions. I assure the Hon. Members that for construction of storage money will not be a hurdle. We shall find money. Institutional finances and other organisations are there and we shall see that in areas where we do not have enough storage, we shall construct more through the FCI and through the CWC.

SHRI RAM PYARE PANIKA : What about the backlog in the reserved quota of the Schedueld Caste emyloyees in the FCI ?

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : A deputation had met me some time back and I took note of the fact that they have not got their reserved quota in employment. I have already given instructions that the shortage in quota for Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe emyloyees should be made up by the FCI.

Thank you very much. I request that these demands may be granted.

(*Interruptions*)

SHRI PIYUS TIRAKY : I want to get one clarification. Just now you have told that you have got enough stocks. Are you going to start the food-for-work programme again ?

(*Interruprtions*)

RAO BIRENDRA SINGH : I will reply to him outside, Sir.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put all the cut motions moved to the Demands for Grants relating to the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies to vote together, unless any Hon. Member desires that any of his cut motions may be put separately.

SHRI K. RAMACHANDRA REDDY (Hindupur) : I want my cut motions No. 5 and 8 to be put to vote separately.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put cut motions No. 5 and 8 moved by Shri Ramachandra Reddy to the vote of the House.

Cut motions No. 5 and 8 were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put all the other cut motions togather to the vote of the House.

Cut motions No. 2,3 and 11 to 19 were put and negatived.

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : I shall now put the Demands for Grants relatin to the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies to the vote of the House.

The question is :

> "That the respective sums not exceeding the amounts on Revenue Account and Capital Account shown in the fourth column of the Order Paper be granted to the President out of the

Consolidated Fund of India to complete the sums necessary to defary the charges that will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st day of March, 1986 in respect of the heads of Demands entered in the second column thereof against Demand Nos. 41 and 42 relating to the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies."

The motion was adopted.

Demands for Grants, 1985-86 in respect of the Ministry of Food and Civil Supplies voted by Lok Sabha

No. of Demand	Name of Demand	Amount of Demand for Grant on account voted by the House on 25th March, 1985		Amount of Demand for Grant voted by the House	
1	2	3		4	
		Revenue	Capital	Revenue	Capital
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
MINISTRY OF FOOD AND CIVIL SUPPLIES					
41.	Department of Food...	2,08,46,30,000	19,11.49,000	10,42,31,52,000	95,57,49,000
42.	Department of Civil Supplies.	91,73,000	1,33,84,000	5,58,66,000	7,24,22,000

MR. DEPUTY SPEAKER : The House stands adjourned to re-assemble at 11 A. M. tomorrow.

18.08 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Tuesday, April 23, 1985/ Vaisakha 3, 1907 (Saka)